

CBCF Conference: Health, “The Dream” and Impeachment



Texas Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee served as chairperson throughout the conference which tackled infant mortality, the opioid crisis, health disparities, and criminal justice reform. PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

An estimated 10,000 people filled the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Northwest Washington, D.C. over five days to hear vital issues facing African Americans and other minorities at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s Annual Legislative Conference.

Organizers left no stone unturned during the 48th annual event that featured honorary co-chairs, Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey and Senator Kamala Harris of California. Texas Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee served as chairperson throughout the conference which tackled such vital topics as infant mortality, the opioid crisis, health disparities, criminal justice reform and much more.

Naturally, the midterm elections and the possibility of impeaching President Donald Trump commanded much attention. “We will walk through the storm together and we will be productive together,” said Jackson-Lee during the opening news conference that featured the potential 2020 Democratic presidential ticket of Booker and Harris.

U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams sat for a fireside chat during a luncheon titled, “Protecting the Health, Safety and Security of African-American Communities.” “This is about lifting up health for all,” Adams said.

Another health disparities forum highlighted Census Bureau statistics which revealed that 54.4 percent of blacks

have private health insurance compared to 75.8 percent of non-Hispanic whites. Further, the data revealed that more blacks – 43.6 percent – relied on public health insurance like Medicaid, compared to 32.7 percent of whites. What’s more, statistics show that African Americans have the highest mortality rate of any racial and ethnic group for all cancers combined and for most major cancers.

This year’s conference theme, “The Dream Still Demands,” paid tribute to the legacy of pivotal American civil and social movements of the past 50 years, while maintaining a goal of uplifting present-day champions in the fight for racial equality, justice and freedom.

A panel discussion on criminal justice reform included Sybrina Fulton, the mother of Trayvon Martin and three black gubernatorial candidates – Ben Jealous of Maryland, Stacey Abrams of Georgia and Andrew Gillum of Florida brought in overflow crowds at the convention center.

Rep. Maxine Waters of California, who along with Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina and Rep. Al Green of Texas each received the National Newspaper Publishers Association’s (NNPA) Leadership Award, helped to celebrate the hip-hop culture and stole the spotlight.

Joseph “Rev. Run” Simmons of Run-DMC fame also appeared on a panel to discuss

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Jackson Hinds Library System receives \$10,000 federal coding grant

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent
Contributing Writer

The Jackson Hinds Library System recently received a \$10,000 federally-funded Library Services and Technology Act grant to teach coding skills to elementary students at their seven Jackson library locations.

Funds will be utilized to purchase iPads and interactive robotic toys to teach introductory computer programming skills to elementary-aged students.

“This grant will enable us to offer the basic steps of coding using fun, colorful robots and iPads. This is equipment that is exciting for any age, and we believe that the kids will really enjoy this program which could help them prepare for a career in the field later in life,” said Library Executive Director Patty Furr.

The Mississippi Coding Academy was housed in the Welty Library Technology Lab for the first four months of the academy’s course. During that period Welty Library administrators became aware of the need for elementary school children to learn coding and to incorporate basics to program computers.

Botley, one way to introduce students to coding, paves the way for other computer programming such as Hour of Code, Scratch or Apple’s Swift Playground. Kimberly Corbett, Deputy Director, noted that “Botley encourages sequential thinking and each line or square is a block of code.”

“But girls don’t normally have linear thinking which is required,” added Furr. “The kids have to program to follow lines,” she continued.

Osmo, another coding method, fosters social intelligence and creative thinking by opening up the iPad and iPhone to the endless possibilities of physical play. “This music game writes a song. Boys and girls venture evenly to the game. It’s a cute game designed to encourage learning for educational and fun purposes. So students learn the coding language as well as the fundamentals,” Corbett stated.

Furr and Corbett concur that it is good to possess coding skills, even if a person is not



Anne Sanders, branch librarian of the Medgar Evers Library, looks on as Jamarion Atkinson, 9 years old (white shirt) and Darius Johnson, 10 years old (blue shirt) observe robotic toy.

scientifically or mathematically inclined. It is useful for artists, composers, musicians, English majors or anyone who is language-oriented then, to do coding.

Jackson Hinds Library System is expecting 1800 to 2000 books on coding for students. Accordingly, participants can learn the fundamentals of coding and progress to advancement. While directors project that it will be in every library in Jackson and will move to the counties, coding already exists in many elementary schools.

Computer coding is a growth industry in Mississippi. Thus, the Mississippi Coding Academy was formed last year to begin to teach computer coding to high school graduates.

Coding
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Jackson Hinds Library Executive Patty Furr and Deputy Director Kimberly Corbett demonstrate how interactive robotic toys teach computer programming fundamentals to elementary students.



Cosby

Reasonable doubt remains ahead of sentencing

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Much has gone unreported about the Bill Cosby trial and what many perceive as an overwhelmingly suspect set of charges filed against him, resulting in a hearing that many experts cite as an affront to ethics laws. The fairness of the proceedings is further called into question based upon the arguably questionable ethics and out of court statements

made during the campaign of then-candidate, and now-District Attorney, Kevin Steele, whose campaign promised to “Get Cosby.”

Cosby, who finally lashed out at Steele after the verdicts in April, has maintained his composure in the face of what appears to be an easily-appealable jury decision.

When the comedian initially was ordered to stand trial in 2017, National Newspaper Publishers Association

(NNPA) President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., said it was important for the Black Press to cover the trial and to remain impartial and balanced.

Just two years prior to the start of the trial, Cosby himself told the NNPA Newswire that he too wanted fairness – and the icon was clear that he wasn’t seeking any favors. “Let me say this: I only expect the black media to uphold the standards of excellence in journalism and when you

do that you have to go in with a neutral mind,” Cosby said.

It’s been an uphill battle for the icon, particularly after a jury found him guilty of three counts of aggravated indecent assault in April, just months after another jury failed to deliver a verdict, reportedly divided either 10-2 or 7-5 in favor of acquittal.

Cosby
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New Ed. Era, Holmes Co. Pt. 4

‘What’s in a name?’ Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Shakespeare once asked the question in his famous 17th Century play, Romeo and Juliet, “What’s in a name?” Today, in the 21st Century education era of the Holmes County Consolidated School District (HCCSD), the answer is Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy.

The HCCSD Board of Trustees voted 5-0 August 9, to name the newly created Fine Arts Magnet Academy at Holmes County Central High School (HCCHS) in honor of the former high school speech and drama teacher, Doretha Draine Wiley.

The dedication ceremony and reception will take place Oct. 12, at 2 p.m. at HCCHS, located at 9479 Brozville Road, Lexington, Miss. The school was called Lexington Attendance Center (LAC) when Wiley began teaching in 1971 and served there until 1985.

During her tenure, her students accumulated 135 trophies, over 600 certificates, 10 full scholarships, over \$8,000 in cash and countless awards from various competitions, many netting both partial and full scholarships.

Wiley’s former student and new Superintendent of Schools James L. Henderson, Ed.D. who made the recommendation, ignited a trend of social media kudos and congratulations via likes and comments from former students located across the nation. Many of them attested to Wiley’s tireless hard work and love for her students as she exposed them to the world of the fine arts.

“Mrs. Wiley was one of a kind,” expressed Henderson. “Thanks cannot begin to express our appreciation for her efforts. We are who we are



Wiley

because of Mrs. Wiley.....We honor her.”

Wiley first learned of the pending honor while attending the district’s community-wide opening convocation.

“For once in my life, I was speechless!” she said in a recent interview. “It is an honor I never dreamed of – especially of this magnitude.” The stunned teacher said all she ever did was things to help her students achieve their best. “I never expected anything in return,” she said.

The Holmes County native’s passion, compassion, motivating force, encouragement and tireless efforts even attracted the attention of national news network CBS 60 Minutes with Ed Bradley in 1979. A CBS crew traveled to Lexington to do a segment on her and her students. The following is a letter she received from a viewer dated September 1, 1979 after it aired:

Dear Mrs. Doretha Wiley,
I saw you on Ed Bradley’s Brown vs Board of Education Decision Twenty-Five Years After, documentary several weeks ago. I am writing to thank you for sharing your thoughts on national television with all of us. You have no idea how elated I was to hear you articulate in unqualifying language my own beliefs about the varied roles black teachers must be willing to play. I agree with you, that they must be everything to our young ones in order to fill in the social and psychological gaps in their home life. This may be a sad truth as well as an added burden, nevertheless, it is a necessity; and until we have more black teachers like you our youngsters will continue to slide backward, ultimately ending up on a human junk heap discarded as misfits.
Again, I salute you.

Sincerely,
Marion L. Davis
Wiley and her students also appeared on statewide television programs. Below is a May 25, 1982 letter from the then-Tougaloo College President George A. Owens.

Dear Mrs. Wiley:
I had the pleasure of hearing your group of students on the Collins television program Sunday morning. I admire the work you have done with these young people in enunciation and diction and thank you for it. It is a real inspiration to know that you are requiring these essentials and getting such fine results. I thank you again and send my warm congratulations to you and your students.

Sincerely yours,
George A. Owens
President
Housed in the high school, the

Magnet Academy itself is a recently-developed component of the newly operational district. Coordinated by Durant, Miss. native Gregory Washington, Ph.D., the academy students have the opportunity to take art, band, choir, dance, drama/debate, theater arts, radio, television and print journalism courses. According to Washington, a strings component will also be added. “The academy intends to seek a diverse group of students whereby the instructors will be skilled in evaluating needs and developing student-focused learning strategies, teaching aids and materials for the students,” Washington said. “It is also our hope that the instructors will provide a well balanced educational experience, exposure to extracurricular activities and a realistic perspective to learning the arts.”

The board, district administration and coordinator envision the Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy with additional opportunities that are targeted for the students to participate in district, state and national competitions for each arts component of the academy.

“It is our hope that the academy will form its own boys and girls choirs as well as the DDW concert singers,” expressed Washington.

Wiley is so grateful to God for how successful her students have become. There are medical professionals, a school superintendent, educators, lawyers, social workers, national journalists, USDA employees and other government professionals.

HCCSD Director of College and Career Readiness Carol Stone, who is chairing the planning committee for the ceremony and reception, is one of

them.

“I am proud to be a part of the planning committee for this grand occasion,” Stone said. “The most enjoyable task is contacting her former students to inform them of the occasion.

The contacts lead to conversations about Wiley and the outstanding service she gave her students. Of course, there are many conversations of “I remember when. . .”

One excited contact is Attorney Levi Boone, III of Boone Law Firm in Cleveland, Miss. “Oh, Mrs. Wiley was very instrumental in my life,” Boone said. He recalled being in speech and drama competitions at Jackson State University and Mississippi State University. “I played Lennie in the play, “Of Mice and Men.”

Boone said there are two things, among many, that he will forever be grateful to Wiley for: 1) She taught him to say the word, “truck” correctly because he had difficulty with the “tr” blend; and 2) How to write his name correctly. “My grandfather and father were also named Levi Boone. So, she taught me that when I write my name, it must be written as Levi Boone, III,” he said. “I developed so much confidence in performing before an audience. It helped me in my career as a lawyer.”

For more information on the Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy and how you can help and invest financially in students’ success, call 662 834-2175 or mail your tax deductible donations payable to Doretha Draine Wiley Fine Arts Magnet Academy, Holmes County Consolidated School District, c/o Cheryl Peoples, CFO, P. O. Box 630, Lexington, MS 39095.



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Coding

Continued from page 1

“Students are prepared for employment in the field where salaries range from \$40,000 to \$50,000 plus and no college degree is required,” said Richard A. Sun, CFA during a telephone interview. He surmised that anyone could learn coding and that retirees could take on coding as a second career.

Sun referenced that coding is called the Mississippi model because no one else is doing it. “As we become known, the state’s name will be attached to it. Taking leadership in this area will give people a positive image of Mississippi,” he contended.

Mississippi Coding Academies are part of a non-profit economic development and educational initiative sponsored by Innovative Mississippi, the Mississippi Development Authority, the Mississippi Works program, Mississippi State University and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, in partnership with Hinds Community College, East Mississippi Community College and the Mississippi Community College Board.

For additional information on coding, email [Patty Furr @pfurr@jhllibrary.org](mailto:PattyFurr@pfurr@jhllibrary.org) or call 601-968-5825; email Richard A. Sun @ rich@Richardasun.com or call 202-285-7272.

CBCF

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Waters



Clyburn



Smith

diabetes while Florida Rep. Frederica Wilson sat in on a School to Prison forum.

The weeklong event also celebrated a power shift sweeping the nation: Black women are leading voter drives, running for office and winning. “We know that black women have changed the world and continue to do that through our activism,” said Avis Jones-Deweever, a senior advisor for BWR Research & Resource Development.

“Young women are increasing their activism and there’s a 10 percent jump over the last year,” she said. “As always, our more mature sisters, almost two-thirds of us, are active as always.”

Dr. Elsie Scott said more women are pursuing other areas of elected office. “Since Trayvon Martin was murdered, we noticed more interest in prosecutors and more women running for prosecutors,” Scott said. “There are a number of black women saying they don’t like the way they’re being prosecuted. What we find is women are winning in districts that are not predominately black. If you look at the women of the Congressional Black Caucus, the majority of them now are in districts that are not majority black,” she said.

“My friend Jesse Jackson said if you fight, you can win. If you don’t fight, you will never know if you can win,” said Waters, who received an NNPA Leadership Award.

Trump, who has seen many of his inner circle recently plead guilty to criminal charges and might feel the walls closing in on him, was at the center of impeachment talk. In her typical fiery but still eloquent way, Waters spoke about she and other Democrats’ mission to impeach the president – though, like many others, she never mentioned him by name but only referring to him as “Number 45.”

For those who insist that Vice President Mike Pence might turn out as a worse Commander in Chief than Trump, Waters scoffed. “I say knock off the first, and go after the second,” as the sold-out crowd inside the grand ballroom of the Marriot Marquis roared its approval of her fiery award acceptance speech.

Green, the veteran civil rights advocate who’s serving his seventh term in Congress, picked up where Waters left off. “I promise that I have not given up on impeachment,” Green said. “We have a president who is not only unfit for the presidency, but a man who is unfit for any office in the United States of America.”

HOPE announces partnership with Regions Bank to open 2nd HOPE branch in Alabama



Mississippi Link Newswire

Hope Credit Union (HOPE), one of the nation’s leading community development financial institutions (CDFIs), held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house Sept. 13, for its first Alabama branch, and announced plans to partner with Regions Bank to open a second branch in early 2019.

The branch at 400 Arba St. in Montgomery, Ala., was the result of a merger between HOPE and Tri-Rivers Federal Credit Union.

“Regions has agreed to donate the bank’s former McGehee Road branch to help HOPE expand its presence in Montgomery,” said HOPE CEO Bill Bynum.

HOPE’s expansion into Alabama allows the CDFI to broaden access to critical financial tools in underserved communities – work that won HOPE the 2018 Wall Street Journal Financial Inclusion Challenge. HOPE received the WSJ award, in part, for opening a cluster of branches in the Mississippi Delta, an expansion also made possible through a partnership with Regions.

“For 24 years, we’ve been working in opportunity deserts across the Deep South,” Bynum said. “These are places that lack adequate jobs, housing, nutritious food, healthcare and education. Access to robust, affordable and responsible financial

services are vital to closing those gaps. We are excited to be expanding our presence in Alabama, and fortunate to have a partner in Regions Bank that recognizes the important role that HOPE plays in meeting the needs of underserved communities.”

HOPE now serves nearly 50,000 members from 31 locations in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. In addition to financial services, HOPE also works with community partners, public and private entities and local elected leaders to develop comprehensive community development strategies in the communities it serves.

Parent Engagement Party (PEP)

Thursday, September 27, 2018

5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Jackson Convention Complex
105 E. Pascagoula Street
Jackson, MS 39201
Childcare will be provided

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Visit our newly designed website:
www.mississippilink.com

The Fall Parent and Family Engagement Conference is free for JPS Parents.

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Your child’s school, or the
Office of Federal Programs at 601-960-8945.
You may also pre-register by visiting
the JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us

Jackson Public Schools

Conference Highlights:
Parent Sessions
Information on JPS Student Services
Exhibitors
Food
Door Prizes

INSPIRING MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

John Robinson, Sr.
Keynote Speaker
Director of Education and Youth Development
Houston Area Urban League

Mississippi Writers Trail unveils first marker honoring Eudora Welty

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Writers Trail begins with the dedication of the inaugural marker honoring Eudora Welty. “An international treasure in the literary world, Eudora Welty’s works stand the test of time, influencing generations of writers and sharing Mississippi with the world,” said Visit Mississippi Director Craig Ray. “This trail celebrates the legacy and historical contribution of Mississippi’s most acclaimed writers.”

Born in 1909 in Jackson, Welty lived in the capital city for the majority of her life. An award-winning author of short stories and novels, Welty was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the French Legion of Honor and, most notably, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her novel “The Optimist’s Daughter.” She also was chosen as the first living writer to be published in the “Library of America” series.

Mississippi was prevalent in all her works of fiction, which included “A Curtain of Green,” “The Wide Net,” “Delta Wedding,” The Golden

Apples” and “Losing Battles.” These story collections and novels are translated worldwide. Welty also received recognition for her photography focusing on life in rural Mississippi during the Great Depression.

The Eudora Welty Writers marker is located at the author’s home and garden, a designated National Historic Landmark, at 1119 Pinehurst Street in the Belhaven neighborhood of Jackson.

The Mississippi Writers Trail is an initiative of the Mississippi Arts Commission, in partnership with Visit Mississippi, the Community Foundation for Mississippi, Mississippi Book Festival, Mississippi Humanities Council, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Library Commission. The trail will span the state and highlight notable places which helped shape some of the world’s most acclaimed authors’ lives and influenced their renowned works.

For additional information, please visit www.visitmississippi.org/writerstrail.



Hinds County Human Resource Agency
24th Annual Awards & Recognition Gala

GALA 2018

Friday, September 28, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Jackson Marriott Hotel



Keynote Speaker:
Maggie Wade
News Anchor/Reporter
WLBT 3 On Your Side
& WDBD Fox40

At Hinds County Human Resource Agency, our goal is to help families and strengthen communities.

The Annual Awards and Recognition Gala is Hinds County Human Resource Agency's signature development event, which helps to provide critical matching funds for several services such as home-delivered meals, congregate meal sites, and Hinds County rural public transportation.

Maggie Wade, News Anchor/Reporter at WLBT 3 On Your Side & WDBD Fox40, will be featured as the keynote speaker for this year's Gala. Enjoy dinner, entertainment, and a fabulous silent auction. Cash and credit cards accepted. Tickets are \$50.

The Gala provides an important opportunity to create awareness about our programs and services; to celebrate our clients who have transitioned out of poverty to self-sufficiency; and to honor our volunteers and community partners who work with us throughout the year to help eradicate poverty and provided a better life for more than 49,000 low-income citizens throughout Hinds County.

Our programs and services would not be available without the invaluable support of our community and corporate partners.

To make a donation or for more information on tickets, ads, and sponsorships, call 601.923.1838.



*Helping Families,
Strengthening Communities*

Lanier senior scores 33 on ACT but not stopping



Jiles

Mississippi Link Newswire

A 33 on the ACT might be impressive to most, but it's not enough for Lanier High School senior Joseph Jiles. He is unwavering in his commitment to academic excellence and is pursuing a perfect score on the college admissions test.

"I scored a 30 the first time I took the ACT," said Jiles. "My goal is to get a perfect score, so I will be taking it again."

Jiles is a member of the Opera-

tion Shoestring Youth Council and has been an articulate advocate for a recent Bond campaign for JPS. A gifted orator, he spoke passionately in support of the Bond at a press conference and at community meetings. The college-bound senior is also a member of the JROTC at Lanier.

Achieving a higher ACT score increases his chances of receiving more scholarship offers thereby expanding his options for college.

JPS Football Livestream Schedule



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Livestream


 /JacksonPublicSchools

 /JPSITV

Jackson Public Schools will livestream select football games throughout the 2018-2019 season. The games will be available on the District's YouTube and Facebook channels as scheduled below.

| Date | Game | Location | Time |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| September 14 | Provine at Callaway | Hughes Field | 7 p.m. |
| September 21 | Greenville at Murrah | Hughes Field | 7 p.m. |
| September 28 | Raymond at Lanier | Hughes Field | 7 p.m. |
| October 6 | George County at Jim Hill | South Jackson Field | 2 p.m. |
| October 12 | Wingfield at Forest Hill | South Jackson Field | 7 p.m. |
| October 26 | Murrah at Provine | Hughes Field | 7 p.m. |

Links to View Livestream:
www.facebook.com/JacksonPublicSchools
www.youtube.com/JPSITV



VOTE Faye Peterson

HINDS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

SUB. DIST. 4

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Byram 2 | Byram 3 | Bolton | Clinton 1 | Clinton 2 | Clinton 3
Clinton 4 | Clinton 5 | Clinton 6 | Clinton 7 | Cayuga | Chapel Hill
Dry Grove | Edwards | Learned | Old Byram | Pinehaven
Raymond 1 | Raymond 2 | Springridge | St Thomas | Terry
Terry 2 | Utica 1 | Utica 2



BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Former Hinds County Asst. Public Defender
- Former Hinds County Asst. District Attorney
- Former Hinds County District Attorney
- Owner of The Peterson Group LLC
- Owner of FC & H Realty
- Family Master Hinds County Chancery Court

- Volunteer CLE Trainer for CABA, MAJ, MVLP, MWLA, and the University of Mississippi School of Law
- Former Board Member Hinds County Human Resource Agency
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc, Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter

- B.S. Physics Jackson State University
- J.D. Mississippi College School of Law
- Member of Cade Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Usher Board and Circle of Temperance Missionary Group

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Record-setting enrollment at the state's leading research university tops 22,000

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In its fifth consecutive year of historic growth, Mississippi State celebrates its 140-year anniversary by accelerating student enrollment well over the 22,000 mark, an attainment that's been a top priority for MSU President Mark E. Keenum.

With this fall's arrival of 22,201 students, Mississippi's leading research university is seeing 318 more enroll than last year's 21,883, while also growing diversity of the student body to more than a quarter – 27 percent – of MSU's degree-seeking population. A record number of new transfer students also is contributing to the university's unprecedented enrollment, and first-time freshman numbers are up from fall 2017.

The exceptional growth, Keenum said, can be attributed to the university's expansion of student opportunities and offerings, spearheaded by the "outstanding faculty and staff who truly are driven to make a difference in the lives of those who choose Mississippi State."

"We're providing a signature educational experience that extends way beyond the classroom to show students that far-reaching goals are attainable and then positioning these students for long-term success. No matter where students begin their journeys with Mississippi State, they have countless possibilities to learn, lead and grow," he said.

The surge in fall numbers includes:

- record new transfer students (2,142 up from 2,062)
- more first-time freshmen (3,599 up from 3,438)
- highest average freshman



More than 11,000 students take classes in Mississippi State's Old Main Academic Center on its busiest days. Opened last fall, the 150,000-sq.-ft. facility is providing more learning space for the university's growing student body that this fall hit an all-time record of 22,201. PHOTO BY BETH WYNN

ACT score in history (25.6)

- record Shackouls Honors College first-time freshmen (632 up from 475)
- record Distance education enrollment (1,870 up from 1,788)
- increased Meridian campus enrollment (595 up from 522)
- more out-of-state students (35 percent)
- No. 1 college choice for Mississippi's high school graduates

New opportunities for students to attain membership in the nation's most prestigious academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa, expanded undergraduate research and distance education programs, and more study abroad ventures and scholarship options through the Judy and Bobby Shackouls Honors College are at the heart of the increase.

Also, engagement in abundant community service projects, enhanced housing that

includes living-learning communities and two residence hall choices in the Honors College are contributing to the considerable boost in those pursuing degrees at MSU.

MSU, a National Science Foundation Top 100 research university that's continuously building on its legacy as a premier academic institution, ranks sixth globally in entrepreneurship research as cited by the international Journal of Small Business Management and is in the Top 5 percent nationally for agriculture research according to the NSF.

Money magazine lists the university as Top 50 in the South in its 2017 "Best Colleges for Your Money" rankings, while the national publication Military Times includes MSU in the Top 50 best universities for veterans and their dependents.

Enrollment growth among MSU's eight colleges can be seen in the College of Business (up 6.4 percent); College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (up 4.3 percent); James Worth Bagley College of Engineering (up 2.9 percent); and the College of Forest Resources (up 2.9 percent).

Total college-specific enrollment figures are:

- 2,512 in Agriculture and Life Sciences
- 749 in Architecture, Art and Design
- 5,285 in Arts and Sciences
- 3,033 in Business
- 3,458 in Education
- 4,771 in Engineering
- 601 in Forest Resources
- 483 in Veterinary Medicine.

MSU is Mississippi's leading university, available online at www.msstate.edu.

University enrollment remains level as Fall semester begins

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Fall enrollment at Mississippi Public Universities remains level when compared to Fall 2017 figures. Preliminary figures indicate Fall enrollment for 2018 is 80,592 for the system, compared to 81,378 students enrolled in Fall 2017, representing a 1 percent decrease.

"Our students are investing in their futures when they enroll in one of our universities and this investment will pay off for them as individuals and for society as a whole," said Alfred Rankins Jr., Commissioner of Higher Education. "College graduates earn more, pay more in taxes and are less likely to be unemployed or need social

services. Earning a bachelor's or advanced degree is a game-changer for an individual and increasing the number of Mississippians with a degree is a game-changer for our state."

Figures are unduplicated and count students one time, regardless of on-campus and off-campus enrollment. Figures for the University of Mississippi include students attending the University of Mississippi Medical Center:

Fall 2017: 2,890

Fall 2018: 2,840

Fall 2018 enrollment figures are preliminary as students continue to work through admissions and financial aid issues to complete the enrollment process.

| Institution | Fall 2017 | Preliminary Fall 2018 | Number Change | Percent Change |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Alcorn State University | 3,716 | 3,753 | 37 | 1.0% |
| Delta State University | 3,789 | 3,784 | -5 | -0.1% |
| Jackson State University | 8,558 | 7,709 | -849 | -9.9% |
| Mississippi State University | 21,883 | 22,201 | 318 | 1.5% |
| Mississippi University for Women | 2,789 | 2,738 | -51 | -1.8% |
| Mississippi Valley State University | 2,385 | 2,406 | 21 | 0.9% |
| University of Mississippi | 23,780 | 23,258 | -522 | -2.2% |
| University of Southern Mississippi | 14,478 | 14,743 | 265 | 1.8% |
| System Total: | 81,378 | 80,592 | -786 | -1.0% |

Source: Institutional Research Offices, September 12, 2018.

MVSU's Hawkins to chair Rural Poverty Research Interest Group

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Cassandra Hawkins may be new to the Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) faculty, but she is already making an impact on campus.

Hawkins, who is an assistant professor of public administration/rural public policy and planning, has been nominated to serve as the chair-elect of the Rural Sociological Society's Rural Poverty Research Interest Group (RIG) for 2018-2019. She will serve as chair of the Rural Poverty RIG in 2019-2020.

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) is a professional social science association that promotes the generation, application, and dissemination of sociological knowledge to enhance the quality of rural life, communities and the environment. The association's Research and Interest Groups (RIGs) reflect the substantive interests of RSS members and serve as an important avenue for connecting members with similar interests.

The Rural Poverty RIG welcomes, fosters and promotes research from diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches that contribute to a broad understanding of the dynamic intersecting factors that produce and perpetuate conditions of poverty for rural individuals, families, communities and regions in both the United States and in other nations.

"This opportunity will allow me to expose my students in the MA Rural Public Policy and Planning program to research, networking and career opportunities," Hawkins said.

"I look forward to preparing for the 2019 RSS Na-



Hawkins

tional Conference and having students present their work," she added.

Hawkins teaches in the Rural Public Policy and Planning graduate program as well as the Government and Politics program in the Department of Social Sciences at MVSU.

Her research interests include student pedagogy, American literature, agriculture policy, rural policy, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and food insecurity in Mississippi.

"Dr. Hawkins is an addition to our capacity building for research in agricultural policy and rural policy," said Richard Mushi, chair of MVSU's Social Sciences Department and coordinator of the Rural Public Policy and Planning program.

"We are so excited about research and grantsmanship possibilities she brings to Rural Public Policy and Planning graduate program, Social Sciences department and our Mississippi Valley State University."

For information about the Rural Poverty RIG, visit www.ruralsociology.org

To learn more about MVSU's Rural Public Policy and Planning program, call (662) 254-3352 or visit www.mvsu.edu

New media lab boosts MC Communication Department

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi College's new media lab continues to generate positive buzz among students on the Clinton campus.

Located in the basement of the Aven Fine Arts Building, the media lab makes its debut as an invaluable teaching tool for the Department of Communication. It offers studio space for students to create podcasts, build portfolios, edit video, conduct broadcast interviews and embrace future media changes.

"We genuinely thank the anonymous donor and all who worked to make this dream a reality," Communication Department Chairman Cliff Fortenberry said.

Fortenberry joins colleagues raving about the facility since it opened in late August. "It equips the Communication Department and the campus to display a tangible commitment to student learning."

A few feet from other MC classrooms, the lab is situated in the former WHJT and Star 93.5 radio station space. The lab on the building's ground floor offers "a tremendous boost to the Communication Department, communication students and Mississippi College," Fortenberry added.

MC students like Corey Rho-



MC students are already making extensive use of the Communication Department's new media lab.

den, sports editor of the "Mississippi Collegian" share the professor's sentiments. "It's nice to have a first-class space where students can come, be comfortable and work together on projects for class or for The Collegian."

A senior from Kenner, Louisiana, Rhoden expects to spend countless hours in the media lab before his college graduation rolls around. He's been busy lately since the student newspaper's first issue of MC's 193rd academic year rolled off the presses September 4.

A Mississippi College student who works with MCTV, Josh Clark is impressed by the lab's benefits. It's more than

new tables, chairs and the latest computers in a renovated room.

"The new media lab is really helpful for editing MCTV stories," Clark said. "And the lab studio is the perfect spot for putting together podcasts. Communication students will put in many hours during the Fall semester in these new rooms."

MCTV videos broadcast university news stories such as this summer's arrival of President Blake Thompson. The Communication Department station offers timely updates of Choc-taws athletic events and regularly showcases student-oriented features.

Fortenberry sees the lab as the spot for students to access

equipment allowing them to build unique professional production portfolios essential to landing jobs.

Professor Reid Vance says the lab is equipped quite well for instructional use serving two dozen students at a time. Each of the lab's 12 iMac workstations features the latest Adobe Creative Cloud software for video, photo and production along with editing and distribution.

The lab, Vance said, becomes the go-to space where students will enhance their public speaking skills to meet the demands of a competitive marketplace. "Students will be able to conveniently record their speeches and review them to identify areas of solid performance and needed improvement."

A display monitor allows student presenters to blend visuals into their work. The back of the area in a separate room will serve as an audio/radio production lab.

Communication Department leaders predict the new media lab will become a popular destination point for alumni, parents and students, especially during MC's 2018 homecoming.

Activities on the Clinton campus are booked October 26-27.

White House Initiative selects Jackson State students as 2018 HBCU Competitiveness Scholars

By L.aToya Hentz-Moore
jsumsnews.com

JSU students Michael Ware and Lisa Johnson were recently chosen as Competitiveness Scholars for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHIHBCU).

Students were selected for the WHIHBCU competitiveness scholar program based upon a unique combination of academic achievements, campus and civic engagement, recommendation and entrepreneurial ethos.

Ware, a senior sociology major, explains his inspiration for applying for this honor. “While working with Karmeen Powell-Childress – a previous White House All-Star on several JSU projects, I observed her drive and determination in that role. It really inspired me to pick up the torch and convey innovation to Jackson State in an effort to provide different opportunities for our students.”

Ware, an Oklahoma native, said, “I am looking forward to being inside the White House. This will be an opportunity for all of the competitiveness scholars to meet and create a unified agenda for HBCUs.”

Johnson, a higher education administration doctoral student elucidates her interest in this initiative. “I am a HBCU advocate. This is an honor and certainly an extraordinary opportunity to discuss and attain additional knowledge regarding the niche fulfilled by HBCUs that other universities don’t encompass for their students.”

A native of Vicksburg, Johnson, agrees with Ware on the tremendous honor it will be to visit the White House. “[This is] a great opportunity to network with other students and administrators from various Historically Black Colleges and Uni-



Michael Ware and Lisa Johnson were recognized as HBCU Competitiveness Scholars in Washington, D.C. during the 2018 National HBCU Week conference September 16-19.

versities, plus it’s the backyard of Howard.”

Scholars will also have a chance to engage with one another to showcase individual and collective talents across the HBCU spectrum.

Ware and Johnson are recognized for being outstanding student leaders and encouraged to be advocates for excellence and competitiveness at their HBCU.

“I exude competitiveness,” said Ware, who is also the president of the Campus Activity Board. I am proud to be a student at Jackson State, which is Mississippi’s only public urban university. Being less than ten miles from the Capitol makes us a contender in the areas of research, politics and it just gives us a real advantage.”

As student development coordinator/publicist for the de-

partment of Urban and Regional Planning, Johnson said, “I radiate leadership. My approach entails getting students engaged on campus because student involvement is crucial. I want students to comprehend that educational excellence is just the first step; employers search for participation in activities and organizations – all of those elements create a holistic student.”

Johnson, a current higher education administration doctoral student says “I am a HBCU advocate. This is an honor and certainly an extraordinary opportunity to discuss and attain additional knowledge regarding HBCUs.”

The WHIHBCU will provide outreach and engagement opportunities for scholars as well as information and resources to disseminate among their fellow

students. Scholars will also participate in regional events, webinars and monthly web chats with the WHIHBCU staff.

Both honorees are looking forward to sharing their collective talents with students at Jackson State.

“I strive to see and surpass the standards. I aim for titles to show my purpose and I am careful not to let any title define the person that I am. I want to encourage all students to always want to leave something better than you find it,” said Ware.

Johnson advises other students to be bold, take risks and be a beacon for HBCUs.

“Some of the most brilliant people are HBCU products. Make sure that people can look at you as someone who is a shining example of an HBCU alum,” said Johnson.

JSU 2018 Sports Hall of Fame will include new inductees from SWAC, NFL, PGA, LPGA

Jackson State University

Jackson State University will induct 10 former student-athletes – several who played professionally – and a supporter into the 2018 Sports Hall of Fame Friday, Sept. 28.

This year’s annual event will be at 6 p.m. inside the Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center.

The future inductees cover a range of sports: basketball, football, golf and softball.

Shasta Averyhardt, golf, won nine collegiate golf tournaments, including four individual SWAC Conference Championships. She led the team to four SWAC Team Championships that berthed a bid in the NCAA Regionals, 2005-2008. In 2011, she became the fourth African-American woman to gain membership on the LPGA Tour.

Kevin Dent, football, led the nation in pass interceptions; he garnered 11 as a sophomore and returned two of those for touchdowns. Ultimately, he would become Conference Defensive Player of the Year twice. JSU Tigers won four consecutive SWAC Championships under the defense of safety Dent.

A.J. Montecinos, golf, earned a PGA Championship and competed against Tiger Woods.

Narah Dean Oatis, supporter –JSU Department of Athletics, received an Award for Dedicated Service in 2008 after 32 years of commitment related to JSU athletic performances. She became director of the Sonic Boom of the South’s Prancing Jaycettes (now J-Settes) in 1975, devoting 21 years to the dance group. She also worked with JSU Twirlers and cheerleaders.

Tera Sheriff, basketball, a key part of the Lady Tigers’ advancements to SWAC championships, with an appearance at

the NCAA tournament (1995). Sheriff was the only player in the nation to rank in the Top 10 in scoring and rebounding (1994-1995).

M.C. Taylor, football, played on two conference championship teams and on a national championship team. His football squad was known as “The 1962 Dream Team.”

John Walker, football. After being drafted by NFL’s Atlanta Falcons, his plans were to play about 12 years, retire and then start a business. All of that changed after being drafted in 1968 by the U.S. Army. He was inspired to coach after active duty. At JSU, he lettered four consecutive years. He was a linebacker, tight end and also the long snapper center.

LaTrenda R. Watson, softball, was a four-year letter winner in softball. In 1999, Watson received SWAC All-Tournament Team, SWAC Eastern Division Most Outstanding Hitter, and Player of the Year. She was 29th in the nation for Division I for a softball batting average of .418.

Rickey Young, football. In the NFL, Young played in 131 games, rushing for nearly 4,000 yards and 23 touchdowns. In his nine seasons in the NFL (1975-1983), Young did not miss a single game, playing in all 131 contests with his teams in that span.

Eric Strothers, basketball. He was named one of the best mid-major assistant coaches in NCAA Division I basketball by collegeinsider.com. In 2010, he was tabbed SWAC Assistant Basketball Coach of the Year.

Tickets to the 2018 Sports Hall of Fame may be purchased from the JSU Ticket Office, 601-979-2420.

Kenney named executive director of JSU Development Foundation

By L.aToya Hentz-Moore
jsumsnews.com

Kristie Kenney, former Fort Valley State University (FVSU) administrator, has been appointed as executive director of the Jackson State Foundation.

“My staff and co-workers have been phenomenal and extremely helpful in my transition. They have afforded me with access to all the latest and most vital information pertaining to my position.”

Kenney says, “The president has specified his presidential priorities and I do know that the board stands ready to serve and assist. At this particular time, there are a lot of business transactions that are taking place so that we can position ourselves to be exactly what we are – the foundation for Jackson State University.”

Prior to joining Jackson State, Kenney managed foundation relations and operations, donor services, annual fund, stewardship and a foundation



Kenney

budget that exceeded \$50 million in assets.

Kenney’s accomplishments at FVSU include increasing foundation giving by 30 percent within four years; overseeing the public private ven-

ture bond sale which garnered an excess of \$1.2 million in revenue; and serving as a member of the university’s strategic planning committee.

As a community leader in the areas of entrepreneurship

and education, Kenney founded Peach Academy Kids, Inc., a non-profit organization providing supplemental education and enrichment activities for elementary age children in Peach County.

The Fort Valley native is also the creator of Jazz in the Valley, a music festival assembling more than 400 melody lovers in the spirit of cultural awareness and fundraising.

Kenney earned her master’s degree from Purdue University Global in Higher Education – College Administration and Leadership. She has a bachelor’s degree from Tennessee State University in agricultural business. She is currently enrolled in the Executive Ph.D. in Urban Higher Education program at Jackson State University.

Kenney is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Trinity Baptist Church in Fort Valley. She is married to Kareem and together they have a one daughter, Kaylen.

NSF awards \$4 million to alliance led by JSU to increase minorities in STEM

Jackson State University

Mississippi Democratic Congressman Bennie G. Thompson recently announced that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded \$4 million to Jackson State University and an alliance of Mississippi institutions of higher learning to help train minorities for careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

JSU is the lead institution of the Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation (LSMAMP) Pathways Alliance. Other collaborators are Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Hinds Community College, Mississippi State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Tougaloo College, University of Mississippi and University of Southern Mississippi.

LSMAMP is helping to address a statewide and national demand for STEM workers. According to the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, the U.S. needs an additional one million graduates in various fields over the next decade.

In response, the Mississippi

alliance is recruiting and supporting underrepresented and disadvantaged minority students throughout the state.

JSU President William B. Bynum Jr. praises the efforts of institutions and leaders to fulfill an important need.

“We are thankful to the National Science Foundation and U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson for our recent award of \$4 million,” Bynum said. “These funds will assist us in continuing our work of preparing economically disadvantaged students for STEM fields.”

Martha Tchounwou of JSU is the statewide program manager of LSMAMP.

“For nearly a quarter of a century, the Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation has played a significant role in educating minority students in STEM,” Tchounwou said. “The new funding provides us with an excellent opportunity to continue to recruit, train, retain and graduate underrepresented minority students and make a significant impact on workforce development in Mississippi and throughout the U.S.”

A night of musical artistry

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Jazz Foundation presents the 15th annual “Night of Musical Artistry” featuring national recording artist Eric Roberson and Mississippi’s own Mike Burton and Band, Friday, December 7, 2018, at Duling Hall Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Making a return to the stage to serve as host for the evening, is the one and only Palmer Williams.

Roberson is without a doubt one of the most dynamic voices on the creative music scene. He is known for his invigorating and combustible live performances, compelling and revealingly honest song writing and impeccable instrumentality. He is a 2x grammy award nominated singer/songwriter/producer widely known as the king of Independent Soul and R&B. He has released 13 albums independently and has performed to sold-out shows around the world.

Roberson has decided to pull the curtain back on how he navigates today’s current music industry by allowing you access to The Process. The Process allows you to see behind the scenes but lets you into how things are created. You will see how he writes and produces music for himself and the numerous artists that he works with.

From organic soulful in-the-pocket grooves, sublime ballads and exuberant up-tempo numbers, the vocals shine through-

Corps signs Partnership Project Agreement with City of Flowood



Mississippi Link Newswire

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District entered into a Partnership Project Agreement with Mayor Gary Rhoads of Flowood, Mississippi, in Rankin County Sept. 12. The agreement, signed on location at the Flowood City Hall, is part of the Mississippi Environmental Infrastructure Program (Section 592) as authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The Section 592 Program provides environmental assistance to non-federal interests in Mississippi. Assistance may be in the form of design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in Mississippi. This includes, but is not limited to, projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities, elimination or control of combined sewer overflow, water supply and related facilities, environmental restoration and surface water resource protection and development. Assistance

may be provided only for projects that are publically owned and the non-federal interest must enter into a written cost share agreement to furnish its required cooperation for the project. This cost share agreement is 75 percent federally funded and 25 percent non-federally funded.

The proposed work for this agreement with the City of Flowood will include the design and construction of a project to improve the city’s water and wastewater facilities. The total cost for this improvement project is \$1,590,000.

The Vicksburg District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encompasses a 68,000-square-mile area across portions of Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana that holds seven major river basins and incorporates approximately 460 miles of mainline levees. The district is engaged in hundreds of projects and employs approximately 1,000 people.

To learn more about the Vicksburg District, visit our website, www.mvk.usace.army.mil.

Mississippi named least well-traveled state in US

The Mississippi Link Newswire

There’s nothing like starting a new adventure and catching a plane to a new destination. Whether you’re exploring the U.S. or saving up all year to explore a new country, traveling helps connect us to the rest of the world and lets us experience what it’s like to live in someone else’s shoes.

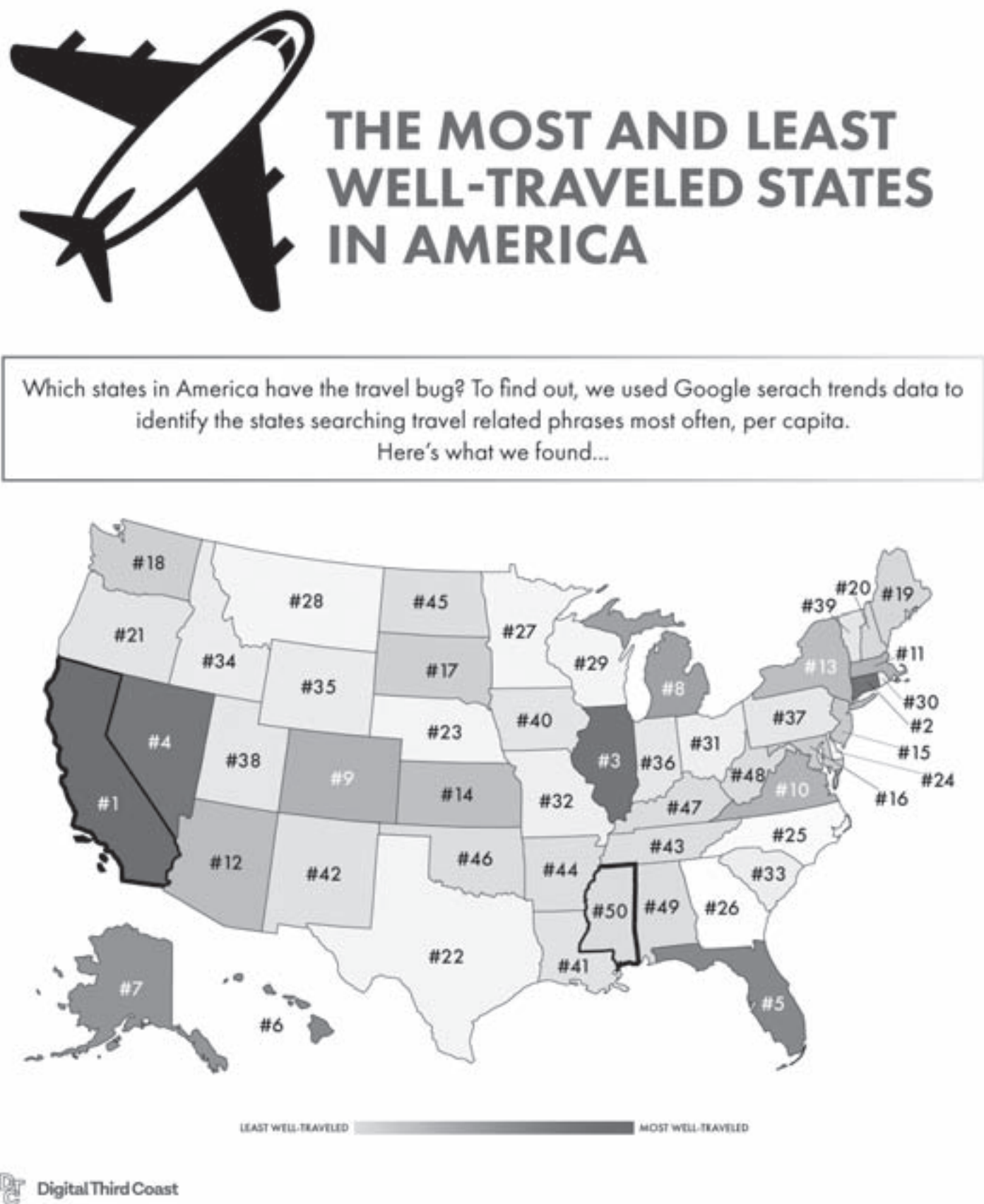
Maybe you are the definition of #wanderlust, always plotting away at your next travel destination – or maybe you are the epitome of a homebody, skipping the time and money that it takes to travel.

As it turns out, where you live in the country may determine how much of the travel bug you have.

We wanted to figure out which states

throughout the country were always jet-setting away to a new place and which states were perfectly fine with sticking close to home. To find out, we used Google search trends data to identify the states searching travel-related phrases most often, per capita.

Here are the most and least well-traveled states in America, according to the data.



Stakes higher for elementary students this year

| <i>The Mississippi Link Newswire</i> | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Date | City | Location |
| Thursday, Oct. 4 | Meridian | MSU Kahlmus Auditorium 1000 Hwy. 19 North Meridian, MS 39307 |
| Tuesday, Oct. 9 | Oxford | Oxford Conference Center 102 Ed Perry Blvd. Oxford, MS 38655 |
| Wednesday, Oct. 10 | Hattiesburg | Woodall Technology Center 906 Sullivan Dr. Hattiesburg, MS 39401 |
| Thursday, Oct. 11 | Jackson (South) | Bates Elementary School 3180 McDowell Rd. Ext. Jackson, MS 39204 |
| Thursday, Oct. 11 | Jackson (North) | McWillie Elementary School 4851 McWillie Circle Jackson, MS 39206 |
| Monday, Oct. 15 | Natchez | Adams County Safe Room 323 Liberty Rd. Natchez, MS 39120 |
| Tuesday, Oct. 16 | Cleveland | Delta State University Hugh Walker Alumni House Hwy. 8 West Cleveland, MS 38733 |

CBCF Phoenix Awards Dinner revives political titans of Black America

By Hamil R. Harris
TriceEdneyWire.com

The Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference concluded with the 48th Annual Phoenix Awards Sept. 15. But, before the night ended, the event felt more like a political revival meeting where the titans of Black America were challenged to pick up the baton of service and sacrifice.

“So this is not the time for us to not know who we are,” preached the Rev. William Barber, co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign, in his keynote speech to the applauding audience of thousands. “James Baldwin said it like this: We made the world and we are the ones who are going to have to make it over. We don’t belong to a people who shrink back when times get tough. America needs a conscious. We need it in the streets. We need it in the Congress. We need it at the ballot box!”

The dinner, themed “The Dream Demands,” was hosted by actress/producer Vivica A. Fox and actor/activist Lamman Rucker who narrated the program that honored Civil Rights veterans, the icons of Black America and the new members of Congress who are people of color.

The glitzy, black-tie event, held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, is the political equivalent to the Oscars with the political, civic and social stars of the black community. But the dinner was transformed into church with Barber’s speech, titled “Knowing Who We Are In Times Like These.”

Barber began with advice on Black America’s response to President Donald Trump. He said, “Whatever Donald Trump’s mental status, don’t just focus on him. America has never had the ability to talk about racism and white supremacy.”

Reflecting on Dr. Martin Luther Kings’ April 3, 1968 “I Have Been to the Mountain Top” speech that took place in Memphis on the eve of the assassination, Barber said many people focus on the hoop and not the “gravy,” in what King said. “Dr. King looked at the sickness of our society and he said nothing would be more tragic than to turn back now.”

Early in the program, the Caucus had a video tribute to some of the icons of Black America who died in the last year. The list included: former Congressman Ronald Dellums, former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Winnie Mandela, Rev. Wyatt T. Walker, Roger Wilson, Joe Jackson, Journalist Les Payne, Ebony Magazine Editor Lerone Bennett and Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul.

Speaking of Dellums, Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Ca.) told the gathering, “Ron embodied service. He was a former Marine, a psychiatric social worker. He loved the CBC with all of his heart.”

The Awards included:

Georgia Gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams, former minority leader (Georgia House of Representatives) received the Adam Clayton Powell Award for her “ground-breaking accomplishments as a legislator at the local and national levels.”



Rev. William Barber, co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign, delivers spirited keynote at the Phoenix Awards Dinner. PHOTOS BY ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE



Audience at CBCF Phoenix Awards Dinner appears spellbound while listening to message from the Rev. William Barber, “Knowing Who We Are In Times Like These.”



Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. and his wife, Jacqueline, receives the Phoenix Award for Lifetime Achievement from CBCF Board Chair Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas); U. S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) and U. S. Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill)

Bryan Stevenson, lawyer, social justice activist, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, and a clinical professor at New York University School of Law received the ALC Co-Chair’s Award.

Lee Porter, executive director of the Fair Housing Council, received the ALC Co-Chair’s Award for her “exemplary leadership in community advocacy.”

Aretha Franklin received the John R. Lewis Award of Courage for setting the highest standard of dedication, ability and creativity.

Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) and Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-Mi.) honored Franklin and the niece and nephew of the Queen of Soul accepted the award. Lewis said “Aretha Franklin was one of a kind, without her the Civil Rights movement would have been a bird without wings.”

Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. and

his wife, Jacqueline, received the CBCF Chair’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

During the Jackson presentation, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) said “I don’t care how many times we have done it before, we are going to honor him again and again because he deserves it.”

Rep. Shelia Jackson, chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, said, “For me, Rev. Jackson and Sister Jackson are American and International Heroes.”

Rep. Bobby Rush said, “Thank you Rev. Jackson for saving my life.” Rush added that had it not been for Jackson running for president in 1984 and 1988, there would not have been a Chicago Mayor Harold Washington nor a President Barack Obama.

Jackson told the audience, “Our best days are ahead,” and “Let nothing break your spirit.” Mrs. Jackson offered practical advice that included,

“Leave room in your life for God to manage all of your shortcomings.”

At the end of his speech, Barber responded to the oft-heard use of the word, “socialism” in describing the beliefs of politicians and rights leaders who believe in helping the poor.

He said, “If caring for people is socialism than the constitution is a socialist document...Jesus was a socialist...If caring for people is socialism then bailing out businesses is wreckless social behavior. We must be the conscious of this nation otherwise the soul of this nation will be fatally wounded...Our vision must be bigger than Trump, our vision must be to save this nation.”

Recalling the rolls of historic civil rights patriots, Barber concluded, “Fannie Lou Hamer is not coming back....Martin is not coming back....Malcolm is not coming back....It’s our time.”

Camille Cosby appears at Judicial Conduct Review Board



Camille Cosby enters Montgomery County Courthouse with Bill Cosby during his assault trial in April. PHOTO COURTESY OF PA NEWS MEDIA ASSOCIATION

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Camille Cosby has filed an official complaint about her husband’s judge to the Judicial Conduct Review Board of Pennsylvania.

One week before iconic comedian Bill Cosby faces sentencing in his assault case and just a week after defense attorneys filed a motion asking for Judge Steven T. O’Neill to recuse himself, Camille Cosby arrived in Harrisburg, Pa., seeking relief.

“The public, and Mr. Cosby, were entitled to know about O’Neill’s bias before the judge made these rulings,” Camille Cosby said.

“That this judge would hide his bias and decide that his rival, the former D.A., could not be trusted to give truthful testimony, shows that the judge let his own personal feelings override Mr. Cosby’s right to a fair trial. If a judge would do this in a case as high-profile as this one, then he cannot be trusted to be a fair judge for anyone else either.”

The former D.A. Bruce Castor told NNPA Newswire that he was “disgusted” by the prosecution of Cosby after himself promising the legend years ago that if he sat for a deposition and waived his right to remain silent, his words could never be used against him by any future D.A.

The current D.A., Kevin Steele, ran an election campaign on the grounds that he was going to “get Cosby,” and received the support of Cosby accuser Andrea Constand in his campaign bid.

“What is happening to Cosby, as bad a man as he undoubtedly is, should never happen to anyone in America,” Castor said.

“I’m 36 years in the justice system, much of it at a pretty high level and I’m disgusted that any citizen entitled to the presumption of innocence has been treated this way,” Castor said.

Legal experts also have expressed concern that O’Neill refused to rule on whether the 12-year statute of limitations in the case expired, thus avoiding any prosecution of Cosby. Instead, he sent the matter to jurors, who didn’t appear to consider it.

Last week, Cosby’s attorney Joseph Green filed a motion aimed at getting O’Neill to recuse himself and appoint another judge to consider the case. Green argued that the case has to go back to when it started in early 2016 when Cosby repeatedly sought to get the charges thrown out and the judge to step down. O’Neill repeatedly denied his motions.

Green said recently uncovered facts suggest O’Neill was biased against Cosby from the beginning due to a long-standing political feud with Castor that the judge failed to disclose after he was assigned the case.

The feud stems from a late-1990s political campaign between Castor and O’Neill in which Castor supposedly engi-

neered a campaign dirty trick that damaged O’Neill’s professional reputation, Cosby’s motion asserts.

This colored O’Neill’s rulings against Cosby’s motions, Green argued because Castor was an important witness who testified about why he decided not to prosecute Cosby on the Constand accusations in 2006.

“During the hearing, Judge O’Neill actually took over the direct examination of Mr. Castor, questioning him at some length before issuing a ruling that rejected Mr. Castor’s sworn testimony and wrongfully allowed the case to proceed,” the Cosby lawyers said in a statement.

“There is no way to view the judge’s conduct in this case as being consistent with the constitutional right to a fair trial,” the statement said.

“Judge O’Neill must fully disclose the facts of that feud now. There is no other way to correct the injustice that has been done.”

A number of legal experts from Philadelphia, Delaware, Washington and as far away as Sacramento, San Francisco and Winnipeg, Canada, said O’Neill should recuse himself or at least postpone the Sept. 24 and Sept. 25 sentencing hearings he’s scheduled.

Camille Cosby’s appearance at the Judicial Conduct Review Board isn’t insignificant.

According to Pennsylvania rules, When the Board receives a complaint, the Board’s staff makes a preliminary inquiry. During this stage, you and other witnesses may be interviewed, and documents other than those provided with your complaint may be reviewed. Once there is sufficient information to conclude the preliminary inquiry, the full Board will review the complaint.

At this stage, the Board generally chooses to:

Dismiss the complaint because it is clear that the allegations do not warrant disciplinary action against the accused judge; or

Authorize a full investigation to determine if there is “clear and convincing evidence” of misconduct that warrants disciplinary action against the accused judge

After a full investigation has been conducted, the Board makes another choice:

Dismiss the complaint because there is not “clear and convincing evidence” of judicial misconduct; or if the Board believes that there is “clear and convincing evidence” of judicial misconduct, it may file formal charges against the accused judge with the Court of Judicial Discipline.

When asked why she’s filing the complaint, Cosby said she’s filing it not only on behalf of Bill Cosby, “but for all citizens who may one day find themselves in O’Neill’s corrupt courtroom. This judge must be held accountable for his unethical behavior.”

Beware of the cares of life

By Pastor Simeon R. Green III
Special to The Mississippi Link



Jesus said this in Luke 21:34-36, “And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” The word overcharged simply means “overloaded” or “an excessive load.”

We possess in our souls that which the angels know nothing about. First Peter 1:3-12, “Blessed be the God and Father of our LORD Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for

you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy

Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.”

In your possession is a soul that God has entrusted to you to choose which path your soul is going to follow. When your soul leaves your body, it will be all over. God wants you to choose wisely the path you want your soul to go. He wants you to choose the right way, the good way. What you do is your choice, but dear one, if you want to see the inside of Heaven, you must go the way that is laid out for you in the Word of God.

Salvation is the greatest gift you will ever be offered. Its worth is priceless; it cannot be measured in dollars and cents. You can reject it, but it is the only thing that will bring you out of sin.

Salvation denotes deliverance and preservation. In Exodus, Chapter 14, we have a picture of Israel being delivered out of Egypt. They left Egypt with the Egyptians breathing down their backs, and in front of them lay an impossibility, and the people were fearful. In essence, they said, “It would have been better for us to have served the Egypt-

tians than to die in this wilderness.”

In Exodus 14:13-14 you can read, “And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.”

Except God had delivered the Hebrew children, they would not have escaped. God told Moses to lift up the rod and stretch his hand over the sea. It still takes the rod, which is symbolic of the Word of God, to bring deliverance. When you believe God’s Word and do accordingly, He will save you; then you will possess the greatest gift ever given to mankind, and that is salvation.

Next week, “God works for your good.”

Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

P R E S E R V E D Taking a knee for justice

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Alice Walker mentioned having with her mother in her book In Search of Our Mother’s Garden. Though published over 30 years ago, these words perfectly explain recent protests over social justice issues like police brutality.

From Colin Kaepernick to multi-city protests against excessive violence by police, the protests are linked together by the unique thread of protest and resistance that connect all of us as Americans. Like Walker acknowledged, millennials who are protesting social oppression and injustice recognize that change comes through revolutionary action and not just dialogue.

As Christians, rather than sit on the sidelines and critique protesters, we should learn from their passion and energy. Without regard to how it may personally impact them, they sacrifice for causes in which they believe.

I shared portions of this column last year trying to process difficult emotions after the deaths of unarmed civilians at the hands of police officer. Revisiting this column again after the murder of Botham Jean, I realize that the same emotions (shock, disappointment, anxiety, anger, frustration and hopelessness) remain. And with the widespread protests in the NFL after the shamefully vile and profane comments by the current president, I wanted to share this column again.

To to be perfectly honest, wading through each of those emotions and trying to get to a place of peace remains challenging.

Yet, dealing with each of those emotions (sometimes at the same time) brings me back to a scripture that might provide an answer on how to deal with these horrible injustices. James 2:14-17 focuses on the importance of having an active faith. In fact, verse 17 admonishes that “In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” For example, taking a knee against injustice is an action that has energized many.

Keith Alton Scott, Philando Castile and Terrence Crutcher are just a few of the names that represent African-American men killed for no reason. Unfortunately, we must now add Dallas resident Botham Jean to this list. They represent a shameful truth that the United States is once again forced to deal with.

After decades of skirting the issues, it seems like America is being forced to confront racial inequality, police brutality, and blatant apathy concerning the deaths of unarmed African Americans.

So what does faith have to do with social justice issues and the African-American communities? Everything! Faith that doing something could possibly change the obviously inequitable system is the spark that has inspired the protests of athlete activists like Kaepernick.

Faith also is the foundation for what has historically been the center of the most transformative social justice movements: the African-American church.

Faith in action is voting, running for office, changing unfair laws and taking a knee of protest of injustice.

Shewanda Riley is a Dallas, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends.” Email her at preserved-bypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.

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Senators Booker and Harris stand for justice

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



“Gentlemen, I have always been persuaded that the stability and success of the National Government, and consequently the happiness of the People of the United States, would depend in a considerable degree on the interpretation and execution of its laws. In my opinion, therefore, it is important that the Judiciary System should not only be independent in its operations, but as perfect as possible in its formation.” — President George Washington, From George Washington to the United States Supreme Court, April 3, 1790

After four contentious days of testimony, one thing is absolutely clear from the Senate confirmation hearing for President Donald Trump’s hand-picked Supreme Court nominee: there is no love lost between Senate Democrats and Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

Democrats were combative, and in some cases, defiant, as Kavanaugh’s high-stakes confirmation hearing played out for the American public to see. Trump’s nominee could drastically remake the court, cementing a conservative ideological balance that would affect many of the rights and fundamental liberties many Americans take for granted for generations to come.

Senators Cory Booker of New Jersey and Kamala Harris of California were particularly forceful in their exchanges with Kavanaugh – and given what’s at stake for our nation – rightfully so.

Harris interrupted the opening hearings over the loud objections of Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, demanding a postponement, especially in light of Republican’s releasing over 40,000 pages of documents on Kavanaugh’s time in the Bush White House the night before the start of the hearings. As Harris noted, given the time and sheer volume of documents, the confirmation process needed to be delayed. But despite Harris’ commonsense objection, the Republicans decided the show must go on.

Documents became a running theme in the Democrats’ resistance to Kavanaugh’s nomination. In a break with protocol, Booker released a trove of emails Republicans wanted to keep secret, arguing that there was no reason for them to be marked confidential. Republicans roundly dismissed Booker’s attempt to shed further light on Kavanaugh, a potential lifetime appointee to the Supreme Court, as “theatrics.”

Whether the questioning was difficult, such as the exchanges between Kavanaugh and Harris on Robert Mueller or a woman’s right to make her own healthcare decisions; or the document was salient to understanding how Kavanaugh might rule as a Supreme Court justice, such as Booker’s release of an email previously marked confidential titled, “racial profiling,” Republicans distilled any attempt by Democrats to provide the American public with more information than Republicans were willing to provide down to cheap political posturing.

No matter where you may fall on the motivations of either senator, or any senator on the opposite side of the aisle, there was a concerted effort to provide their constituents and their nation with as much information as possible on Kavanaugh, because, ultimately, this nomination has been nothing if not rushed and utterly devoid of meaningful vetting.

Republicans, who currently have a 51-49 majority in the Senate and do not require a single vote from Senate Democrats to confirm Kavanaugh, are sharing as little as possible about Trump’s nominee. According to CNN, Kavanaugh has “the lowest level of support for a Supreme Court nominee since Robert Bork, whose nomination was rejected by the Senate in 1987.” Rather than worry about shoring up the public’s confidence in our nation’s highest court, Republicans are worried that the more we know, the less likelier the chance of a consequence-free Kavanaugh confirmation.

If you are troubled by what hangs in the balance – a woman’s right to choose, a citizen’s constitutional right to vote, a consenting couples’ right to marry, the limits of executive power, addressing climate change, and more – call your senators immediately at 202-224-3121 and tell them that you expect them to either vote “no” on Kavanaugh, or vote “yes” at grave professional risk.

Confirmation of Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court would represent a grave subversion of the will of the people, and the utter abandonment of the Senate’s duty to advise and consent. We cannot allow such an abuse of power to go unchecked.

Don’t let them break her spirit!

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



Two very talented black women went out to play a game of tennis a few days ago. I’m sure each of them looked forward to a great game.

Other than Venus and Serena playing each other, we had not had a chance to have two black women play such a match. We’d grown accustomed to seeing Serena and Venus play each other. It didn’t matter which one won because we were proud of both.

Naomi Osaka is a sister, too and showed her concern for the way Serena was treated. She may have Japanese blood, but it’s her black side that the chair umpire, Carlos Ramos, prevented her from enjoying her victory.

She had won one set, but Serena was winning when the dastardly act occurred. The question is still open as to who would have eventually won had Serena been given a fair chance.

Naomi knew that what happened to Serena was not right and through her own tears she showed that she recognized her victory isn’t the victory she had hoped for in the way it came about. Serena is definitely our sister, and no matter what, she has proven to be an awesome sister. She acknowledged Naomi’s victory, and though unhappy about how it came about, she hugged her and congratulated her.

Serena is still the Queen of Tennis for those of us who love and admire her. As a black woman, I am proud to have Serena represent black people so well on the tennis court.

We are blessed to have many black women making us proud. Currently there is Stacey Abrams, candidate for governor of Georgia and more.

The haters can do their thing in trying to belittle Serena, but we celebrate her for her entire history of bringing us victories. Say what you will about her calling out the chair umpire and throwing down her racquet, she’s still the best. Her male counterparts

have done worse, and were never punished. That’s something we black women are accustomed to, but I write this message to ask that we not engage in the criticism others are doing about Serena. What she did was normal. Sure, she was upset about the call against her. Any one of us would have responded the same way she did.

Let’s protect and defend her legacy and never allow anyone to destroy it or the legacy of any black woman who is achieving so highly. She is, after all, a 23-time Grand Slam champion!

As for that stupid cartoonist who drew the racist image of Serena, put him in the category of #45; he just doesn’t know real beauty when he sees it. He knew what he was doing and no explanation Mark Knight gives is acceptable. One can assume he thinks because #45 tries to denigrate everybody he doesn’t like, he can do the same.

Fortunately, people from around the world have condemned him and

we should condemn him. Let him know that Serena is talented and beautiful and his opinion does not even matter.

Thanks to Billie Jean King and others, the push-back on Knight’s racist depiction of Serena came immediately, as well as on the matter of the harsh penalty given to her by the chief umpire.

On the other hand, certain umpires are considering a boycott of some of Serena’s matches. I don’t think that threat will break Serena. Umpires are expected to be non-partisan. This threat alone shows their bias against Serena. That’s why I see it as our responsibility to stand up for Serena even as we celebrate another young black woman being the victor from the chaos.

E. Faye Williams, Esq. is National President of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. See www.nationalcongressbw.org – 202 678-6788. She is also host of WPFW 89.3 FM’s “Wake Up and Stay Woke.”

The Miseducation of Betsey Devoid

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Even her boss, the 45th President of the United States, is derivative of Education Secretary Betsey DeVoid, the Devos woman who is devoid, absent of good sense. She may have even been placed in her position as payback for whatever support her wealthy family provided to the certified public liar of a leader. DeVoid has used her position to elevate her family’s economic advantage, and she has used her position to punish students whose interests are contrary to her own. She is a prime example of miseducation, and her tenure has been an attack on students. Let me count the ways:

1- DeVoid has lifted the for-profit college that President Barack Obama attempted to regulate. She chose to minimize the regulations that curtailed for-profit college exploitation. While the Obama administration attempted to make students, who attended for-profit colleges whole, DeVoid has erred in favor of the rip-off schools. Many for-profit colleges only exist because students take out federal loans. When these schools fail, so do the students. Why shouldn’t the

federal government pick up the slack from schools that falsely market themselves as a bridge from poverty to opportunity?

Blessedly, a federal judge just ruled that DeVoid’s attempts to delay Obama-era regulations to provide students with relief was wrong. The Borrower Defense rule, which allows students who borrowed to attend shady schools to apply for relief, had been delayed by the Department of Education, but US District Judge Randolph Moss ruled that the Department’s actions are “procedurally incorrect.” The lawsuit against DeVoid and the Department of Education was brought by 19 states and the District of Columbia. Will DeVos learn her lesson? Probably not. This is part of her miseducation.

2- DeVoid has weakened regulations around sexual harassment and sexual abuse of students. She feels that those who are accused of harassment should have more rights than they are already offered, and that the arc of justice should bend away from the young women who have been raped and abused. DeVoid is devoid of compassion when she raises the bar for those who accuse fellow students and colleagues of sexual assault or harassment. Is there room for adjudication? Probably. Should those

who have to encounter their rapists or harassers on campus be protected? Absolutely.

3- DeVoid has stacked her staff with proponents of charter schools and for-profit education, which is the equivalent of having the fox guard the henhouse. She has done this boldly, unapologetically, and with the blessing of her boss, the 45th President, who has also been woefully miseducated. It is likely that the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania cringe every time he says that he went to the Wharton School of Business.

4- DeVoid has proposed rolling back rules on accrediting colleges and schools, raising concerns that she plans to water down the quality of education nationally. This is consistent with her family’s involvement in for-profit education. To be sure, many Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have run afoul of the accrediting agencies, such as SACS (the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools), which seem to be stricter on HBCUs than on other schools, but none in the HBCU community support the DeVoid method of changing accreditation rules. DeVoid is using the Department of Education as a playground for her family’s monied interests.

Under Betsy DeVoid, the staff of the Department of Education is down 13 percent. Some may see this as a good thing, and every federal agency can probably stand to be streamlined some. But if the staff reduction means less enforcement of important regulations, then DeVoid will have accomplished her purpose, which seems to be to turn education into an unregulated free-for-all, and a profit opportunity for her family and others who see education as a commodity, not a service.

I feel that DeVoid has been miseducated, but perhaps she has been all too well educated in the ways of 45, who promised to disrupt government as we know it. With his horrid approach to governing, and his flip-pant disregard for the lives of US citizens (witness his crude and inaccurate comments about deaths in Puerto Rico), 45 has certainly been disruptive. And the minion he has described as “ditsy” has been equally destructive to students and schools at the Department of Education.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannemalveaux.com

By enforcing climate change denial, Trump puts us all in peril

By Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.
Founder and President of
Rainbow PUSH Coalition



North Carolina has been hit with a storm of biblical ferocity. Florence has left at least 17 dead there, 500,000 without power, with

flash flooding across the state from the coast to the western mountains. Landslides and infectious diseases are predicted to follow.

North Carolina is not alone, of course. We’ve witnessed the devastation wrought by Katrina in New Orleans, Hurricane Sandy in New Jersey, Hurricane Harvey in Houston and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Maria is now estimated to have taken 2,975 lives, nearly as many as died Sept. 11, 2001.

As economics historian J. Bradford DeLong summarizes, the four storms – all in the past 15 years – are among the most damaging in U.S. history. No one storm can be attributed to any one cause. But repeated storms of greater force are the “predictable result” of catastrophic climate change, and they are a mild augury of what is likely to follow. President Donald

Trump has enforced climate denial in Washington.

He has systematically sought to repeal even the inadequate steps the U.S. had taken to begin to address the problem. Last year he announced the U.S. was withdrawing from the Paris Climate Accord. He’s geared up to repeal Obama’s executive orders on energy, climate and gas mileage.

He’s opening up more public lands to mining and drilling and weakening environmental restrictions on coal, oil and natural gas, including most alarmingly, restrictions on the release of methane gas from natural gas pipes. Web pages with climate change information have been removed or buried at the EPA and the Interior and Energy departments.

The rest of the world vows to continue to deal with climate change, but with the wealthiest nation in the world scorning the effort, it is certain to be more inadequate than it already is. Catastrophic climate change is a clear and present threat to our national security.

The Pentagon realizes this. It is developing contingency plans for bases around the globe that will be threatened by rising waters and raging storms. Its intelligence agencies warn

that climate change will be more destabilizing than terrorism across the developing world.

DeLong offers one snapshot of the threat. Two billion poor farmers toil in the six great river valleys of Asia.

Their existence is dependent on the snow melt from the region’s high plateaus arriving at the right moment and in the right volume to support the crops on which the billions rely. Another billion depend on the monsoon arriving at the right time each year.

Now as the planet heats up, the sea levels rise, the polar ice caps melt, so too the snow melt will change dramatically, as will the monsoons and cyclones. The disruption will wreak havoc on billions, forcing dramatic migrations to who knows where.

The same is predicted as Africa gets hotter and drier, and desertification continues to uproot long settled peoples. The effects are already here, visible in the scorching heat experienced across the country, the fires in the West, the drought in the South and the storms in the East.

We are seeing climate change with our own eyes. Yes, no one storm or heat wave can be directly attributed to global warming. But global warming guarantees that catastrophic

weather events will get more frequent and more ferocious. Some suggest it is too late. The carbon already in the atmosphere will take us beyond the warming levels that the international community suggested were manageable.

We are headed into the unmanageable. But denial is no answer. Continuing to do more of the same is simple madness. It is not too late to make the wholesale cuts needed in greenhouse gas emissions.

Professor Michael Mann of Penn State University notes: “It is not going off a cliff; it is like walking out into a minefield. So the argument that it is too late to do something would be like saying: ‘I’m just going to keep walking.’ That would be absurd.”

Trump’s chaos presidency is corrosive and divisive. His impulsive and uninformed decision-making is terrifying. Now on what surely is becoming the greatest threat to our security – indeed human existence, if not addressed – he and the Republican Congress that aids and abets him, are adding fuel to the fire.

Without vision, the Bible says, the people perish. Trump’s blind denial of the reality around us seems intent on demonstrating how true that is.

Lacking concussion system, Mississippi athletes in contact sports at risk

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On Fridays during football season, many of Mississippi's high school teams have an athletic trainer on the sidelines, or a team physician, or both.

And many teams have neither. That inequity can mean the difference between life and death for players with a suspected concussion, and not just on the football field. Athletes in all contact sports are prone to a concussion, a traumatic brain injury that's caused by a blow to the head or elsewhere on the body.

Although a concussion is regarded as a mild brain injury, most often resulting in possible headache, dizziness and confusion, "there is a great risk for players who are not removed from play immediately after a concussion," said Dr. Jennifer Reneker, University of Mississippi Medical Center associate professor of physical therapy.

"The danger is caused by Second Impact Syndrome, a life-threatening medical emergency causing swelling of the brain and often resulting in death."

Reneker and her research team are looking through a health equity lens to develop a first-ever statewide concussion system that addresses concussion, from before a player laces up his shoes to the days and weeks that follow a concussion injury.

"Rural areas need equalized care so that you get the same thing in Indianola as you would in Jackson," Reneker said. "What is the medical management once a concussion is suspected? How is the decision made to return a student to play, and who makes it? And what happens after a student is initially treated for a concussion?"

"What we are doing in Mississippi is not equal to what's going on in other states."

UMMC is one of just 10 academic health centers nationally chosen for an inaugural program sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges. The centers have been challenged to identify a community population health concern and address it with a focus on health equity. "We are working toward a long-term impact in development of an equitable (by sex and region) statewide contact sport concussion prevention system for athletes ages 12-18 in Mississippi," Reneker said.

It's a labor of love for Reneker, and one that won't be easy. An improved culture of safety also is needed to potentially save lives.

"People have to know what they're seeing. A lot of health care provider education doesn't include concussion," Reneker said. "Kids have to be encouraged to tell the truth about getting hurt, and they need to feel that they won't be penalized for saying they feel bad."

And, parents and coaches need to respect the healthcare professionals best trained to evaluate player injuries. "Medical providers need to feel confident and supported when they make a difficult decision about removing a kid from a high-stakes game," she said.

"We don't have the organization now to affect the culture that's been there for 50 years," she said. "We don't have an idea at all of how many concussions are suffered in this state. We have no data at all."

Those needs will be in the spotlight Sept. 26 at the Heads Up Mississippi Concussion Conference sponsored by UMMC and a number of external agen-

cies and nonprofits. To be held at the Hinds Community College Clyde Muse Center in Pearl, it targets athletic trainers, coaches, athletic directors, physicians, physician assistants, psychologists, nurse practitioners, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, and speech and language pathologists.

Reneker and the conference planners have assembled a group of nationally acclaimed sports injury experts to bring home the message of safety, education and a system of concussion treatment. They include Dr. Brian Hainline, the first chief medical officer of the National Collegiate Athletics Association and a professor of neurology at Indiana University and New York University schools of medicine.

Mississippi in 2014 was the last state to pass legislation addressing athlete concussion. It sets out minimum standards for students in public and private schools and advocates concussion education for athletes and parents. The bill requires athletes who show symptoms to be immediately removed from a practice or game. That athlete can't return for the rest of the day, and an appropriate health care provider must clear an athlete to resume play or practice. It requires parents to sign the school's concussion policy.

The law, however, doesn't require a licensed health professional or athletic trainer to be present at games. It has no vehicle for enforcement, and it says there is no liability for not adhering to the law.

Coaches have progressively gotten on board, said Lee Jenkins, executive director of the Mississippi Brain Injury Association, a conference sponsor. Even so, "there's a lot of room for improvement" in the culture, Jenkins said. "You're always going to have some players who will try to play through concussion or any other injury."

A medical emergency that resulted in the August 24 death of a Byhalia High football player raised questions about required protocols for injury or illness during a game. Although concussion has not been cited as a factor in his death, there was no certified trainer or medical professional present on the sidelines.

"This has got to be a wake-up call," Jenkins said. "We can't penalize the kids who are living in rural areas. We need to find a way to have a medical professional on the field in all districts. The coaches love these kids. They don't want them to get hurt."

Just as there is widespread education for recognizing signs of stroke, the same should be true for those who witness a player showing signs of concussion after a hard hit, Reneker said. "The question is whether the signs and symptoms are actually recognized, and if appropriate action is taken. The conference will provide best evidence and practice to a wide range of people across the state to improve our concussion prevention and management."

"The goal of developing a statewide system for concussion isn't to keep kids from being physically active in a competitive sport they love," Reneker said. "It's to keep them safe while they're playing."

"Mississippi has a fantastic opportunity to do something here that hasn't been done before," she said. "I say we take what Mississippi is great at, and then use it to our advantage."

Autism conference set for Mississippi College

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Autism impacts one in every 59 children in the United States, reports the Centers for Disease Control. Autism refers to a range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal behavior.

On October 10, an autism conference at Mississippi College will take an in-depth look into the complex subject. More than two million people in the USA suffer from this disorder that can be diagnosed in children as young as 18-months old. The MC School of Education-sponsored program will attract national experts, therapists, teachers, students and family members. Registration costs \$50.

"Navigating Autistic Life: Our Journey Together" is the title of the program at Anderson Hall. Dr. Mark Yeager, executive director of TEAAM Autism, will serve as the guest speaker. A special education professor at William Carey University, the Mississippian is the author of the Autism Bill of Rights.



Gunter

The first annual Haley Rose Gunter Autism conference is being co-sponsored by Canopy Children's Solutions. Generous donations by Haley Rose's grandfather, former Mississippi Insurance Commissioner George Dale, and Dale's son-in-law, Dr. Chad Stokes, a

Madison dentist, made the conference possible on the Clinton campus.

The program will begin when a parent, Donna Gale Gunter of Madison, discusses the journey with her daughter, Haley Rose, who has autism. Donna is the daughter of George Dale, an

MC graduate from Clinton.

"Our idea is to truly journey together and learn from one another," said Cindy Melton, dean of the School of Education. The conference seeks to provide the best services and care for children with autism. An estimated 50,000 teens with autism become adults. About one-third of people with autism remain nonverbal, reports show.

There are many types of autism caused by different combinations of genetic and environmental influences.

The topic deeply interests leaders of the MC School of Education. MC offers programs that assist teachers, including a master's degree in special education.

Pre-registration is encouraged. But people can register at the conference beginning at 7:15 a.m. that Wednesday morning. The first session begins at 8:15 a.m. Continuing education credits will be provided to professionals attending the sessions.

For more information, contact Shirley Tipton at tipton@mc.edu or call 601-925-7667.

Mississippi Health Advocacy Program and Mississippi Center for Justice launched a campaign opposing the proposed medicaid work requirement

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Health Advocacy Program (MHAP) and Mississippi Center for Justice (MCJ) recently launched a new public awareness campaign called Why Medicaid Works during a press conference at the Mississippi State Capitol.

The goal of the effort is to educate Mississippians about the proposed Medicaid Workforce Training Initiative and the potentially detrimental impact the proposal could have on public health in Mississippi. The proposal would require Medicaid enrollees to work at least 20 hours per week or participate in an approved work activity to receive or maintain health coverage.

"A work requirement would

unfairly target the state's most vulnerable citizens by making health coverage out of reach for families who depend on Medicaid," said Roy Mitchell, executive director of the Mississippi Health Advocacy Program. "The proposal would create a Catch-22 in which even enrollees who managed to comply with the requirement could still lose coverage because working 20 hours a week at minimum wage would raise their income above the level to qualify for Medicaid."

MHAP and MCJ also joined the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute's Center for Children and Families to release a report about the potentially harmful effects of a work requirement in Mississippi. Ac-

cording to the report, the only Mississippi families that would be affected by the proposal are those living at 27 percent of the poverty line or lower. For a single parent with one child the wage limit to qualify for Medicaid is just \$370 a month. If this parent manages to meet the requirement, they would only earn \$580 a month for a minimum wage job causing them to have too much income to qualify for Medicaid.

People in these low-wage jobs are unlikely to have the financial stability to afford private insurance.

Last year, the Mississippi Division of Medicaid joined nine other states that submitted applications to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Serv-

ices to enact a work requirement. However, Mississippi is the only state to apply for a work requirement that did not also expand Medicaid.

"Policymakers should consider how this will affect families and other vulnerable populations in our state," said Linda Dixon-Rigsby, health law director at Mississippi Center for Justice. "The Why Medicaid Works campaign will provide the tools and resources Mississippians need to be informed and stand up for the health of our state."

To learn more about the proposed Mississippi Medicaid work requirement and the Why Medicaid Works campaign, visit www.whymedicaid.works.

Statement from Sandra Shelson, executive director, The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, regarding the FDA actions against e-cigarettes flavors

"Usage of e-cigarettes, vaping devices and Juul in Mississippi is rising at an alarming rate especially with our youth.

The Mississippi high school e-cigarette rate has increased from 1.2 percent in 2010 to 10.3 percent in 2016 and an even higher rate of trying the products is at 26.9 percent, which is in line with the national trend.

E-cigarettes are becoming

the gateway to cigarette use and are appealing to our children because of the more than 7,000 available flavors. Because of this, we applaud the action of the Federal Food & Drug Administration for ordering Juul Labs and four other makers of popular vaping devices to prove they can keep these products away from minors within 60 days.

Many reports fail to empha-

size that e-cigarettes and other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems contain nicotine, a drug that has been proven to be more addictive than heroine or cocaine."

"The marketing tactics, as well as the manufacturing of the flavors of the products, by the e-cigarette manufacturers are mirroring the manipulative advertising, especially those focused

on youth, used by big tobacco companies prior to the tobacco settlement.

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi also supports and encourages local communities to pass ordinances restricting the usage of e-cigarettes in all public places and also for continued studies of these products."

Contact: Sandra Shelson 601.927-8545

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www.mississippilink.com

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2013 Chry 200
VIN #1C3CCBBB8DN684579
Registered to Thomas James
Chrysler Capital, Lien Holder

Date of Sale: September 26, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

9/6/2018, 9/13/2018, 09/20/18

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2009 Chev E15
VIN #1GCFG154591167307
Douglas Express Inc.
Bank Plus, Lien Holder

Date of Sale: September 26, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

9/6/2018, 9/13/2018, 09/20/18

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2012 Niss Alt
VIN #1N4AL2APOCN508548
Registered to Nickles Tionna or Terrell Trin
Credit Acceptance Corp. , Lien Holder

Date of Sale: September 26, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

9/6/2018, 9/13/2018, 09/20/18

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR A
REAL ESTATE PROPERTY BROKERAGE
SERVICE
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
AUTHORITY
PROJECT NO. 7000-005-18
September 12, 2018

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") requests Proposals ("Proposal") for a Real Estate Property Brokerage Service to (i) to provide commercial real estate brokerage and advisory services and (ii) to oversee JMAA's efforts to secure developers for JAN with emphasis on the East Metro Corridor property and Hawkins Field property.

JMAA will receive Proposals at the offices of JMAA, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208, until 3:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on October 11, 2018 (the "Deadline").

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Ms. Robin Byrd, JMAA's Procurement Manager, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300 (39208)
Post Office Box 98109
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Robin Byrd, Procurement Manager
Telephone No.: (601) 360-8616
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: rbyrd@jmaa.com

or from JMAA's website at <https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>

Based on the Proposals received, JMAA will select a maximum of three (3) Respondents with whom to enter into negotiations to provide the Services. JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent ranked first on the list. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent and follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA will not hold a Pre-Submission

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Proposals, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 30% for the Services solicited by this RFP.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

9/13/2018 9/20/2018

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS
ART CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI ADA RENOVATIONS,
CITY PROJECT NO. 17B7003.701

The City of Jackson intends to employ an Architectural/Engineering (A/E) consulting firm for ADA Renovations at the Art Center of Mississippi, 201 East Pascagoula St., Jackson, MS. Renovations to include approximately 485 sq ft of reworking restrooms on first floor for better ADA compliance and approximately 140 sq ft on the second floor to create an accessible path. Statement of Qualifications will be accepted by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 p.m., Tuesday October 23, 2018. The proposed contract will include complete Architectual/Engineering services required for this renovation.

Official bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firms interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the City of Jackson seven (7) copies of a Statement of Qualification, which should consist of the following:

- A cover letter specifying the complete project name, ART CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI ADA RENOVATIONS, CITY PROJECT, No. 17B7003.701, the name of the project manager, and the location and address of the office to be assigned the majority of the work.
- A resume for each principal member, the project manager, and employee(s) of the firm anticipated to be assigned to the project including consulting engineers. Also, provide an organizational chart and list each person's experience and qualifications, including proof that the Project Manager is licensed as a Mississippi Professional Architect/Engineer and that the firm has met state licensure and certification requirements. Include a business recovery plan in the event of a disaster.
- Knowledge of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) procurement processes, Section 3 requirements, certified payroll, Davis-Bacon Act; and other reporting requirements of CDBG funded projects.
- A description of similar type work completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the consultant for this work; the cost and schedule completion (or actual completion) of this work with project owners reference contact information.
- In addition to the information requested above complete Part II of the Standard Form (SF) 330, Architect-Engineer Qualifications. This Form can be obtained at (<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/forms/download/116486>).

The City will evaluate the Statements of Qualification based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance:

- Experience of the firm in performing specific services and experience in preparing architectural/engineering design and construction projects funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
- Qualifications and experience of staff and consultants to be assigned to the project based on requested scope of services.
- Size of the firm's professional and technical staff with respect to the services required.
- Resume of the firm's current and completed projects of a similar nature.
- Local presence of the firm within the Jackson Metro Area.
- Equal Business Opportunity participation plan submitted with the Statement of Qualification package.

The City reserves the right to select one (1) consultant or select a short list of consultants from whom more information will be required. The City reserves the right to reject any and all Statements of Qualification, discontinue Contract execution, and/or request additional information with any party at any time prior to final Contract execution. For any Statement of Qualification questions, contact Lloyd Keller, Jr. at 601-960-1657, lkeller@city.jackson.ms.us.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each proposer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan with the proposal submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a proposer from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the City of Jackson's Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at the following location: 200 South President Street, Room 223, Jackson, Mississippi; or can be accessed on City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity webpage.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all proposers that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all proposers will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City of Jackson encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City of Jackson, as well as those who seek to contract with the City of Jackson on various projects and/or conduct business in Jackson to assist the City of Jackson in achieving its goal by strongly considering city of Jackson residents for employment opportunities.

Robert K. Miller
Director Public Works

Vanessa Henderson
Deputy Director
Housing & Community Development

9/20/2018, 09/27/18

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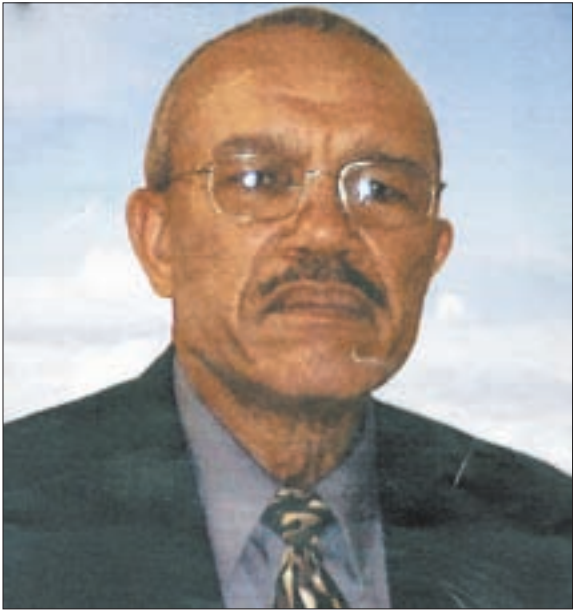


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IN MEMORIAM

Lepolian Gentry

October 22, 1937 - September 9, 2018



Gentry

Lepolian Gentry was born to the union of Coy and Beatrice McCord Gentry October 22, 1937 in Noxapater, Mississippi. At an early age, he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior in joining Mt. Pleasant #2 Missionary Baptist Church. He later joined Cade Chapel Missionary Baptist Church as he migrated to Jackson, MS. He peacefully departed this life September 9, 2018 at St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson, MS.

Lepolian met Etherlene Hatten in 1957 while attending Jackson State University. They later married and have remained married for 61 years. They became the proud parents of two sons, Lepolian Ricardo "Ricky" Gentry (deceased) and the Rev. Jerome Gentry. One of Lepolian's greatest love was gardening. He was also an avid sports fan and a strong financial supporter of Jackson State University.

Schools Attended: Hathorn Elementary, Noxapater Vocational High, Jackson State University (B.S. in Elementary Education, Tuskegee University (Master's in Educational Leadership) and Postgraduate Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Mississippi State University and the Univer-

sity of Mississippi.

Recognitions/Awards: Principal of the Year at Blackburn Middle School, Jackson State University (JSU) National Alumnus of the Year, MS NAACP Freedom Award, Proclamation from the City of Jackson for Academic Excellence at Blackburn Middle School, Resolution from Hinds County Board of Supervisors and numerous other plaques and commendations.

Organizations/Affiliations: Life member of JSU National Alumni Association, JSU One Thousand Dollar Club, president of JSU Jackson/Hinds Alumni Association, president of the Board of Directors of Hinds County Education Credit Union, vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees and Sunday School Teacher at Cade Chapel Baptist Church, member, Board of Directors of the Metropolitan YMCA and treasurer of the JSU National Alumni Association for twenty-three (23) years.

Career Tenure (places and lengths of time): (1) Starkville Public School District, Starkville, MS - served as a teacher (1959-1963) and principal (1963-1968) at Ward Middle School; (2) Jackson Public School District, Jackson, MS - served as assistant principal at Powell Middle School (1968-1969) and principal at Blackburn Middle School (1969-1991); (3) Piney Woods School, Piney Woods, MS - served as dean of students (1991-1998) and principal (1998-1999); (4) Hinds County Court, Jackson, MS -served as deputy court clerk (1999-2016).

Lepolian was preceded in death by his parents, his son, Lepolian Ricardo, and his brother, Arthur. Persons whom he leaves to treasure his memories are his wife, Etherlene; son, Rev. Jerome Gentry (Julie) of Bartlett, TN; grandchildren, Deanna Gentry of Jackson, MS and Mia Gentry of Brandon, MS; siblings, Jerry Gentry Sr. (Juanita) of Pearland, TX, Ruth Williams (Luther) of Long Beach, CA, Coy D. Gentry (Vonnice) of Jackson, MS, Ollie V. Gentry (Hazel) of Madison, MS, Dr. Ruben Gentry (Dr. Dorothy) of Madison, MS, Dr. Roosevelt Gentry (Eula) of Jackson, MS, Charles Gentry (Dr. LaVeme) of Clinton, MS, and Lenary Ellis (Harvey) of Clinton, MS; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Charles Edward Kelley

July 25, 1932 - September 13, 2018



Kelly

A very significant birth occurred July 25, 1932, in Jackson, Mississippi, as God blessed John and Mary Kelley with their second precious boy. He was affectionately named Charles Edward Kelley. Charles was a diamond that sparkled in the eyes of his five sisters and big brother.

Charles confessed his faith in Christ at an early age and joined Third Temple Church of Christ Holiness USA, where he served as assistant superintendent, youth leader, usher and choir president. Following in the footsteps of his father, he later joined College Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where he was a much loved member of the Deacons Ministry, Outreach Ministry and Sunday School.

Education was one of the keys to a successful and prosperous life, according to Charles. He completed his elementary and

high school education in the Jackson Public School System. He enlisted in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict and was honorably discharged. Upon returning from active duty, he continued his education by enrolling in Jackson College, now Jackson State University, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in science and physical education.

He firmly believed in the saying, "To teach is to touch a life forever." He touched the lives of a myriad of students as basketball coach at Campbell College in Jackson, and while teaching at Camden High School, Taylorsville High School, Bolton Middle School and Clinton Junior High School.

Deacon Kelley adhered to the biblical principle of Proverbs 18:22, "He who finds a wife findeth a good thing," and on November 26, 1958, he married his sweetheart Mildred Delores Burney. They became the parents of one son, and they would have celebrated 60 years of marital bliss in November.

He was a longtime member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the Salt and Pepper Men's Club and the L. K. Atwood Elks Lodge #518.

He was predeceased by his parents; brother John H. Kelley Jr., and sisters Alfanette K. Holloway, Audrey K. Cockrell, Lillian K. Stewart and Ethel K. Penquite.

The last grain of sand in Deacon Kelley's hourglass of life fell September 13, 2018.

He leaves to cherish his legacy and memory wife Mildred Burney Kelley; son Gregory Charles Kelley of Miami, Florida; grandson Gregory Charles Kelley Jr. of Miami, Florida; sister Aretta K. Smith of Jackson, Mississippi; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cosby

Continued from page 1

Cosby's sentencing phase is set to begin Monday in the same courthouse in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania where the trial took place. Sentencing will be carried out by the presiding judge, Judge Steven T. O'Neill.

Despite clear conflicts of interest, O'Neill has repeatedly refused to recuse himself and is seen by many as conspiring with the prosecutor to convict the comedian.

As for coverage of the trial by the Black press, Chavis' earlier edict, which is supported by NNPA National Chairman Dorothy R. Leavell, has been strongly maintained through objective reporting and editing.

Through the reporting of the Black Press, jury nullification was exposed.

In Pittsburgh, prior to the first trial, Cosby attorney Brian McMonagle first raised the issue of unfairness when prosecutor Kevin Steele and his assistants openly declined African Americans for the jury. They even investigated potential black jurors.

Jurors cannot not be excluded on the basis of race or gender, and McMonagle said that prosecutors had used challenges to remove two black women while accepting white jurors who gave similar answers to questions.

The potential juror, an African-American woman who had retired from the police force, appeared ripe for selection until Steele objected. He contended that his investigation found that the woman had been fired from her job with the police force for falsifying records.

However, that was just a small part of her story.

Steele knew at the time, but failed to disclose, that the officer had contested the charges against her with the department and won. She was accused of punching another officer's timecard, was found innocent of the charges and sued the department, receiving a large settlement and retired without a blemish on her record.

"We believe it is of paramount importance we seat a diverse jury," McMonagle said.

Rev. Jesse Jackson also expressed reservations. "The jury may determine the outcome even before coming to court," Jackson said at the time. "Our history includes the killers of Emmett Till and Medgar Evers; a jury set those killers free. There's a court bias and African-Americans don't have access to the jury pool [like whites]," Jackson said.

During jury selection in Cosby's first trial, prosecutors nixed potential black jurors without cause and Judge Steven T. O'Neill allowed a white juror to be seated despite his proclaiming, "Cosby is guilty, we can all go home."

The comment was heard by others, including many who gave sworn testimony to the fact, but O'Neill ignored them.

Additionally, two assistant district attorneys made racially-insensitive remarks during jury selection, which O'Neill also ignored, including Assistant District Attorney Kristen Feden who, after one black juror was seated and Cosby's teams tried to select another African American, flippantly said, "You already got your one [black] juror, be happy."

When the Black Press explained to Steele why that was offensive, the prosecutor simply said, "Thank you."

After the verdicts in April, a juror told Good Morning America that it was the deposition that sealed the case against Cosby.

Throughout the trial, the Black Press called out the misrepresentations of mainstream media, many of whom conferred only with the District Attorney's Spokeswoman, Kate Delano, prior to writing hit pieces

against Cosby.

Many in the media repeatedly noted the absence of A-listers supporting Cosby at trial. Only the Black Press reported that it was Cosby himself that asked many of his famous friends and supporters to stay away from the courthouse because he didn't want their careers impacted by the emerging and powerful #MeToo movement.

Supporters note that Cosby has always been available for causes affecting minorities. He has given more than \$200 million in donations

to HBCUs and has lent his impressive art collection to the Smithsonian museums. Cosby also has regularly sat on boards and anonymously provided assistance to Black Americans.

Cosby, who vigorously maintains his innocence and believes he's kept his promise to Wyatt about walking through the valley of shame, faces as many as 30 years in prison when he's sentenced.

"This is the sound and fury signifying the lynching of a legacy," a courthouse source said.

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FILM REVIEW:

LOVE, GILDA

REVEALING RETROSPECTIVE REVISITS

LIFE AND TIMES OF SNL'S GILDA RADNER

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Gilda Radner (1946-1989) was best known as an original cast member of Saturday Night Live. In fact, she was the very first of the “Not Ready for Prime Time Players” hired back in 1975 by the show’s creator/producer, Lorne Michaels.

She soon skyrocketed to superstardom on the strength of sketches where she played such unforgettable characters as

Roseanne Roseannadanna, Emily Litella and Baba Wawa (aka Barbara Walters), to name a few. Sadly, her career would be aborted by a diagnosis of ovarian cancer which would claim her life at the age of 42.

Love, Gilda marks the directorial debut of Lisa Dapolito who paints a poignant portrait of the late comedienne, mostly in her own words, via a combination of diary entries, home movies and recently

discovered audiotapes. The reverential retrospective also features archival footage of performances, as well as wistful reminiscences by her brother, Michael, and colleagues like Chevy Chase and Laraine Newman.

The engaging biopic unfolds chronologically, with Gilda reflecting upon how she developed an interest in comedy at an early age while growing up in Detroit. “Because I’m not a perfect example of my

gender, I decided to be funny about what I didn’t have.” she explains.

She majored in theater at the University of Michigan and dropped out not to kick-start her career, but to follow her sculptor boyfriend to Canada. She did join Toronto’s Second City comedy troupe there, comparing improv to a circus performer’s working without a net.

Gilda eventually landed her big break on NBC’s groundbreaking show in New

York She insightfully describes each SNL episode as “an opening night of an under-rehearsed Broadway play.”

Overall, a fond tribute to a much-loved comedy icon.

Excellent (4 stars)

Unrated

Running time: 88 minutes

Production Studio: 3 Faces Films /

Motto Pictures

Studio: Magnolia Pictures

Kam’s Kapsules

Weekly previews that make choosing a film fun

By Kam Williams
Columnist

For movies opening September 21, 2018

Wide Releases

Fahrenheit 11/9 (R for profanity and disturbing material and images) Michael Moore mockumentary takes a humorous and thought-provoking look at the 2016 election and the presidency of Donald Trump.

The House with a Clock in Its Walls (PG for sorcery, mature themes, action, scary images, rude humor and mild epithets) Adaptation of John Bellairs’ sci-fi fantasy about a young orphan (Owen Vaccaro) who enters a world of magic after being sent to live with his warlock uncle (Jack Black). With Cate Blanchett, Lorenza Izzo and Colleen Camp.

Life Itself (R for profanity, sexual references, violent images and brief drug use) Romance drama chronicling a couple’s (Oscar Isaac and Olivia Wilde) relationship from college to marriage to the birth of their first child. Ensemble cast includes Annette Bening, Samuel L. Jackson, Antonio Banderas and Mandy Patinkin.

Independent and Foreign Films

American Dresser (Unrated) Buddy adventure about a grieving widower (Tom

Berenger) who talks his BFF (Keith David) into joining him on a cross-country motorcycle trip from New York to the West Coast. Supporting cast includes Bruce Dern, Gina Gershon and Penelope Ann Miller.

Assassination Nation (R for disturbing violence, gore, pervasive profanity, menacing, and teen drug and alcohol use) Suspense thriller set in Salem, Massachusetts where a high school senior (Odessa Young) and her friends turn on each other after an anonymous hacker starts posting details of their private lives. With Suki Waterhouse, Anika Noni Rose, Joel McHale, Maude Apatow and Bella Thorne.

Colette (R for sexuality and nudity) Keira Knightley portrays the title character in this biopic about Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette (1873-1954), the French feminist and novelist best known for Gigi, which was adapted to the screen as the classic musical which won 9 Oscars, including Best Picture. Cast includes Dominic West, Denise Gough and Eleanor Tomlinson.

Garry Winogrand: All Things Are Photographable (Unrated) Reverential retrospective of the career of Garry Winogrand (1928-1984), serendipitous, NYC street photogra-

pher famous for capturing the cultural and political upheaval of the Sixties and Seventies.

Love, Gilda (Unrated) Novel retrospective offering an intimate look at the life and times of original Saturday Night Live cast member Gilda Radner (1946-1989) in her own words, via her diaries, home movies and recently discovered audiotapes, along with archival footage and interviews with friends and colleagues. Featuring commentary by Chevy Chase, Laraine Newman and Lorne Michaels.

The Sisters Brothers (R for profanity, violence, disturbing images and some sexuality) Western comedy based on Patrick DeWitt’s best seller, set in Oregon in the 1850s, about a gold prospector (Riz Ahmed) being chased across the desert by a couple of notorious assassins (John C. Reilly and Joaquin Phoenix). With Jake Gyllenhaal, Rutger Hauer and Carol Kane.

Tea with the Dames (Unrated) Revealing documentary shot over the course of a weekend in retreat the country shared by four legendary British actresses who have been friends for over a half-century: Dames Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Eileen Atkins and Joan Plowright.

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BOOK REVIEW: “WASHINGTON BLACK”

BY **ESI EDUGYAN**
C.2018, KNOPF
\$26.95 / HIGHER IN CANADA • 352 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You need to get out of here. You don’t know where. You just have to go to another room, maybe, or another building, another town, across the world. You need to get out of here but, as in the new novel “Washington Black” by Esi Edugyan, be careful, and mindful that you don’t run away from yourself. Big Kit was going to kill him. That, as George Washington Black understood, was her way of protecting him forever: she’d kill him and herself, sending

them to a sort of heaven for slaves. Wash was just a boy, maybe 10 or 11 years old, when she explained that no-more-options plan but she never followed through, perhaps because she was promised by a white man that mutilated corpses had no afterlife. It was 1829 and from then forward, Wash avoided all white men at Faith Plantation, especially Erasmus Wilde, the new master whose cruelty knew no limits. Wilde was a man to steer clear of, but Wash couldn’t escape when he and Big Kit were summoned

to the Plantation house one warm Barbadian evening. Nothing good could come from it – but there did: that was the night when Christopher “Titch” Wilde, Erasmus’s brother, declared that Wash would be the right-sized assistant for his flying machine, which Titch was building at the edge of the plantation. He insisted that Wash come to live with him in the garden cottage and, without telling Erasmus, he insisted that Wash learn to read. He gave Wash drawing materials, and encouraged his talents.

So, though he was yards away from the Plantation house and could never entirely relax, Wash settled into a new life. He learned and watched, absorbing science and nature. He worked on Titch’s flying machine and felt a strong friendship with the abolitionist scientist. He listened to Titch’s stories and began to dream of impossible things. And when Wash was the unwilling witness to something horrible, he trusted his odd friend, and flew... You may be scratching your head now about pre-Civil War years and flying machines. Yes,

and it works. In “Washington Black,” it works phenomenally well. That’s the biggest surprise: the H.G. Wells hint that’s here, and how much it doesn’t make this book into science fiction. Instead, “Washington Black” becomes an early Victorian adventure-drama told with the quiet, proper voice of the title character explaining how he got from a slave plantation in Barbados to Virginia to the Arctic and around the world. That sounds far-fetched, doesn’t it?

Until you read this book, it may seem so but Edugyan leaves enough room in this story to delight his readers, move them, and make everything fit just as they’d want it. There’s violence in here, yes, but there’s also a cliffhanger within, an enchanting romance, and a coming-of-age maturation you’ll be glad you’ve witnessed. Don’t miss this wide novel. Don’t, but do be prepared for a book hangover, since “Washington Black” will stick with you awhile. If that’s the kind of tale you cherish, here’s the one to get.

35TH ANNUAL

WELLSFEST 2018

THREE EVENTS ON THREE DAYS



WellsFest Golf Tournament

Four-Person Scramble

Thursday, September 20

To sign up, visit wellsfest.org

WellsFest Art Night

Duling Hall

Tuesday, September 25

Preview - 5:30 pm

Live Auction - 7 pm

Free admission, free parking



WellsFest

Saturday, September 29

9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Jamie Fowler Boyll Park

Lakeland Drive in Jackson

8 am: 5K Run & Walk / 1 Mile Fun Run

9:30 am: Pet Parade

Non-Stop Music on Two Stages

Huge Kids' Play Area

Food & Drinks / Coffeehouse

Arts & Crafts and much more

Free admission, free parking



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Mississippi Campaign for Teen Pregnancy Prevention

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28th ANNIVERSARY

SCHOLARSHIP / MENTORING CELEBRATION



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7:00 p.m. - Seating 6:30 p.m.

Jackson Convention Complex

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Recent alum’s graduate research selected for national journalism, mass comm conference

By Rachel James-Terry
jsumsnews.com

Jewell Davis, a recent graduate of JSU, says she was “shocked and blessed” to have her research selected for presentation at the 2018 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications Conference (AEJMC) in Washington D.C. this past August.

Davis, who received her master’s in mass communication in May, wrote a thesis titled “Music Use and Genre Choice as Coping Strategies for Emotions” and her advisor, Dr. Li Jing Chang, encouraged her to submit it to the national conference. Since it was her very first conference submission, the graduate student was elated upon learning she was chosen as a presenter.

“I just thank the Lord,” she says, with laughter in her voice.

Chang, also an associate professor in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies at JSU, could not be reached for comment.

Davis explains that she wanted to turn her love of music into something that students and professors can use indefinitely. Employing a survey method, she discovered that respondents used music frequently to help cope with stress, deal with issues or concerns and express their emotions.

“Additional results showed that rock, country, and pop music are the top three genre choices that people use to cope with specific emotions and mood maintenance,” Davis says. “And people use music more frequently to maintain their current mood.”

For instance, she explains, if someone is in a melancholy mood, his or her music will reflect the same, and they rarely attempt to change their music



Jewell Davis (r), JSU alum, who was selected to present her graduate research at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications Conference is pictured with Dr. Li-jing Arthur Chang (l), assistant professor at JSU; and Dr. Kelly Kaufhold (c) of Texas State University who served as session moderator. PHOTO SPECIAL TO JSU

choices to create a new feeling.

At the conference, approximately 30 researchers presented their findings and Davis shares that she had the chance to engage with professors, students, fellow presenters and conference participants from across the nation.

Each presenter was given four minutes to summarize their work before break-out sessions allowed for one-on-one Q&A.

“When you know your research, and your passion and my passion is music, it’s like the words, research and data naturally flow,” Davis responds, when asked if she caught a case of the nerves.

The alum then explains that her research also provides the following takeaways:

1.) Health benefits – findings can be used to help patients cope with their emotions;

2.) Marketing benefits – data can be used to illicit buying moods; and

3.) Genre-emotion link – Yielded fascinating data after testing ten genres of music for possible impact on emotions.

The inspiration for her thesis stems from her childhood where, at the age of 5, she learned to play the piano from her grandmother. “And my dad and my two uncles had their own musical band.

So I grew up around music completely,” she says. “Literally, from the time I wake up until the time I go to sleep, I listen to music all day. Even when I was writing this paper, I was listening to music.”

Davis also expresses that music is the universal language. If an individual can’t speak a particular language, they can still understand it by feeling the beats, the rhythm and the count. “That’s what connects people across the world. That’s how I feel,” she explains.

For future research, Davis says she would like to explore online music accessibility, and the effect internet access has on people’s music selections. The graduate would also like to study how music influences the way people grow up and their environment.

Davis adds that if it was not for Dr. Chang’s encouragement she might have missed her moment on a national platform. She also extends thanks to her alma mater for the opportunity and the leadership of Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony, chair of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies.

Attending the conference, Davis says, has given her a fresh perspective. “No matter what your circumstances are, no matter the college or state that you come from, don’t be afraid to take a chance.”

The AEJMC is a nonprofit, educational association of journalism and mass communication educators, students and media professionals. The association’s mission is to advance education, foster scholarly research, cultivate better professional practice and promote the free flow of communication. Each year, in a predetermined location, the group hosts the four-day conference.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Board recognizes Donald Brown as Bus Driver of the Month for August



Sharon Harris, Director of Human Resources; Donald Brown, Bus Driver for UEMS; and Robbie Anderson, Board member

Superintendent meets with Student Advisory Council

The Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council (SSAC) held its first fall meeting with Superintendent Martin Friday, September 14, at Terry and Raymond High school. The SSAC is designed to provide input and guidance for policy and procedural matters of the Hinds County School District. Dr. Martin stated that as a vital stakeholder, student involvement is a cornerstone of public education and working together, students and schools can make a difference. The SSAC will meet with the superintendent to discuss key issues and policies that directly impact students. Students are asked to provide feedback, suggestions, ideals, comments, etc. during and/or after the meetings via surveys or written responses.

Superintendent Martin also stated that each member of the council is expected to work for the betterment of all students in the Hinds County School District regardless of gender, race, disability and/or migrant status.

THS Superintendent Student Advisory Council

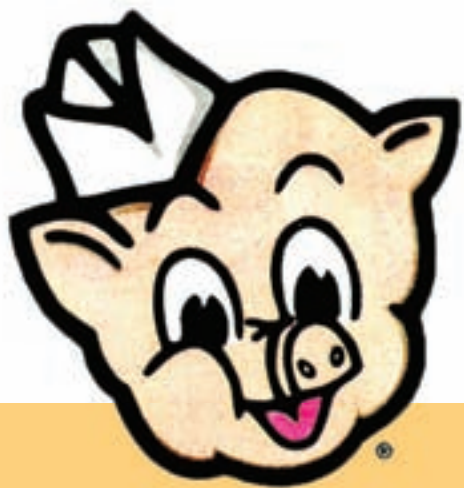


RHS Superintendent Student Advisory Council



September 19 - 25, 2018

piggly wiggly



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1150 East Peace St.
CANTON, MS

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Sunday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

225 Meadowbrook Rd.
JACKSON, MS

STORE HOURS:
Monday - Saturday / 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
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USDA CHOICE BEEF

**SHOULDER
STEAKS**

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FAMILY PACK

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STEAKS**

PER LB.

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BABY BACK

**PORK
RIBS**

PER LB.

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**FRYER
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